

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OF

Politics and General Literature.

VOL. III.]

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 1822.

[No. 111]

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

—113—

Politics of Europe.

We understand that the Balcarras spoke the Mellish about a fortnight before she was abreast of Madras, to which place the Mellish was bound, she having left England between the 10th and 15th of January. We may therefore expect to hear of her arrival at Madras, by the next Dawk from that Presidency, and to have January News from thence, at the same time.

By some fortunate occasion, not fully explained, but probably through the channel of some of the Government Functionaries, the JOHN BULL of Calcutta received the day before yesterday three Numbers of the London JOHN BULL of the 9th, 16th and 23rd of December, which must have been brought on by the EARL OF BALCARRAS from the Cape, and remained in private circulation among the Select, since her arrival, till, having served their purpose in the higher circles, they were handed over to the Demi-Official Print, for the benefit of the lower orders. It is our duty, however, to give such of our Readers as do not see the JOHN BULL, the few heads of public intelligence, which these three Numbers furnish. The Paper of December 9, contains nothing more than we have already published from our own Files of the London Daily Papers up to December 10. The Number for December 16, contains a Proclamation proroguing the Parliament from January 3, to February 5. At the Court at Carlton House, December 10, Lord Wellesley received his appointment as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. The Duke of Dorset, the Marquess of Conyngham, and Mr. Goulbourn were sworn of the Privy Council. The Duke of Montrose was appointed Lord Chamberlain in the room of the Marquess of Hereford, resigned, and the Marquess of Conyngham was appointed Lord Steward of His Majesty's Household, in the room of the Marquess of Cholmondeley resigned. The Duke of Dorset was also appointed to be master of the Horse, in the room of the Duke of Montrose. In the Paper of December 23, it is stated that the GRENVILLES had joined the Administration, and occasion is taken to laud the Authors of our present happiness in becoming terms, enumerating the victories obtained by our arms, forgetting that our soldiers and sailors were the chief instruments in these, but omitting altogether the price we have to pay for said victories, in taxation and debt, of which the merit is chiefly due to those who have by such extravagance so paralysed the state of England, that even 7 years of peace have been insufficient to recruit her strength, or put her into a condition to resent an insult from any nation of Europe, without such fresh burthens as would push taxation beyond the means of its population to raise. If it be this which makes England the envy of surrounding nations and the admiration of the world, it is a condition into which it requires very little wisdom and still less virtue to bring any other country of the same resources and credit; but the sooner we recover our former position and get out of this enviable and admirable state of debt and embarrassment, the better, at least such is our humble opinion; and any accession to the Ministry that may hasten this period will be a matter of congratulation indeed.

Among the longer articles contained in our pages of to-day, is the Message of the President of the United States to the Seventeenth American Congress, which will, we imagine, suggest some useful reflections to English Readers. There exists among the majority of staunch Tories, and indeed in the minds of many other Britons whose political opinions are in other respect suffi-

ciently liberal, a certain prejudice against this Transatlantic Republic, arising partly from the recollection of our former disputes with them, and partly from the innate aversion which some have to the very name of a Republic. This antipathy is, we believe, gradually wearing away, as we think it should, on account of the numerous points of similarity between us and the Americans, in language, customs, and laws, which, even if we were not so by natural generation, would proclaim us brethren. And we apprehend that when future historians and orators pronounce the eulogium of the English nation and the British Constitution, they will never forget to enumerate this among their other glories, that they gave birth to the United States of America.

There is a mass of declamation and sophistry continually pouring from the Servile Press in England, in defence of the present abuses in the government, pretending to prove that our present institutions are in every respect the most perfect and felicitous that could be adopted, and vilifying all who advocate a reform in our Representative system as the worst enemies of the country. As a reply to all such we say, "Look at America." Since the experimental mode of reasoning was first introduced, never was there a more complete refutation of false arguments and erroneous conclusions, resting on no foundation but folly and knavery. Look at America:—Will you still assert, in contradiction to facts witnessed by all the world, that an extension of the elective franchise in England is incompatible with the peace and prosperity of the country! Will you still maintain that sinecures and rotten boroughs, pensioners and placemen, are absolutely necessary to the well-being of a nation! That the greater our public debt the richer we are! You may assert it, but you will find few who are endowed with the blessings of reason to believe you. The world is too old to be gulled with words, so as to disregard the evidence of the senses. While America continues to enjoy internal tranquillity and happiness; advancing rapidly in power and population, while its arms are respected abroad and its commerce covers the ocean—never will the people of England be convinced that they ought to forego a wholesome representative system, and repose their national honor and prosperity on the counsels and integrity of sinecurists and pensioners, and other creatures of a Minister.

As we expect our readers will peruse with attention every word of this plain and honest account of the affairs of this rising nation, entirely free from the cant, affectation, and concealment of European cabinets, we shall notice here only one or two particulars of it. By an act passed in 1815, no higher duties were to be charged on the tonnage of foreign vessels and on the manufactures and productions of foreign nations when imported into the United States in foreign vessels, than when imported in vessels of the United States; on condition that the nation to which such vessels belonged should relinquish in like manner any discriminating duties to the disadvantage of the United States. All nations were thus invited to adopt a liberal system of commerce; and abandon those odious restrictions which operate to the general disadvantage; but some European powers have shown a reluctance to relinquish their ancient narrow policy. England accepted the proposal as far as regarded her European dominions only, excluding the West India Colonies; France rejects the proposition, and gives no ground to hope she will accede to a commercial treaty on equal terms; the principle of this system of reciprocity, however, has been carried into full effect with the Netherlands, Sweden, Prussia, Hamburg and Bremen. We trust

Congress will adhere firmly to the basis they have laid down in forming their Commercial relations; and grant no exclusive privilege to one to the prejudice of others, by which means the intercourse between all nations may be both facilitated and rendered more profitable, being placed on a footing of reciprocal equality.

The sentiments expressed by the President regarding South America cannot fail to gratify all the friends of Liberty in every quarter of the globe. He gives a favourable picture of the cause of Independence in that part of the world; and after stating the general belief that Spain is not able to conquer it, and that it will be satisfied with nothing less than independence, he concludes that it will be the object of the government of the United States to promote the termination of this exhausting struggle, on that basis, by friendly counsels with the government of Spain. We cannot but think the United States, seeing the South Americans in a situation so similar to what their own formerly was, were bound by every principle to interpose sooner in a more effective manner, than merely pleading for them, and giving them their good wishes. From the English government little could be expected, closely connected as it is with the Despotisms of Europe; although common humanity ought to have stimulated every nation to interpose to put an end to a sanguinary and fruitless contest. But the destruction of human life in South America could not be supposed to have any weight with the British Cabinet, which but lately dismissed a meritorious Officer from the Army because he endeavoured to prevent the effusion of the blood of Englishmen by the hands of their countrymen!

The remainder of the Message relates to the revenue, resources, and force of the country, which all present a flourishing aspect. The revenue has been improving from the first quarter of last year, and there will be no necessity for imposing internal taxes for at least three years to come. In the meantime the national force is improving by new fortifications and armaments; and the general strength of the state augmenting by the increase of population and the cultivation of the arts. The Message concludes by mentioning the success that has attended the efforts made to suppress the slave trade, which, it is said, may be considered, as far as the American flag is concerned, as entirely done away; a circumstance highly honorable to the nation, and which will put an end to the clamour raised against them for being slave-holders, an evil which was introduced into the country while dependent on England.

The following are Extracts from the Papers of the 16th and 23rd of December, before mentioned.

Army in Ireland.—The head-quarters of Lord Aylmer are fixed at Buttevant, where the 22d regiment is also stationed, detachments of which are stationed at Ballyclough, Raskoenbridge, Bantyre, and throughout that neighbourhood. The different out-pensioners, whose attendance is required according to the Lord Lieutenant's proclamation, are obliged to take the oath of allegiance in the presence of a magistrate and clergyman. Lieut. Col. Desbrisny, commanding the Royal Artillery in the Limerick district, is ordered to Athlone, to command the western district. Lieut. Baines, with a detachment of Drivers, quartered at Limerick, is also ordered to Athlone. Wednesday se'nnight, twenty-eight non-commissioned officers and privates of the Royal Artillery arrived at Limerick from Billincollig, to replace a like number that marched from thence the same morning, for Dublin. Major M'Donald, C. B. commanding the troop of Royal Horse Artillery, stationed at Limerick garrison, has now the command of the Lower Shannon district. The detachment of the Royal Artillery stationed in Clonmel for some time past, marched for Dublin. They have been replaced by a detachment from Billincollig. An official order for embodying the Yeomanry Corps, under the command of Sir Wm. Stamer, Bart. has been issued by authority. The Narrow Water and Mullaglass Yeomanry, a highly disciplined and excellent Corps, have volunteered their services to any part of the kingdom where his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant may please to command them.

Commercial Report, from the 16th to the 23d of Dec.—The B. P. Sugar market is very steady, and no alteration in prices can be

quoted. The quantity of refined goods on sale is inconsiderable, yet the market is very heavy.—Coffee has gone off heavily at somewhat lower prices; a few lots of Jamaica, by public sale, have however sold at a considerable advance.—Cotton dull, and without any alteration of prices.

Hamburgh, Dec. 4.—Accounts from Vienna say, that the first news of the invasion of Turkey by the Persians was received by the English Embassy at Vienna.—The Grand Duke Nicholas was expected at Riga, to inspect the fortress of Dunamande, Reports of war were in circulation at Riga.

Odessa, Nov. 14.—Copies of the Note of Count Nesselrode, containing the ultimatum of Russia, are in circulation here. It has been transmitted to the Divan, but the decision is not yet known, it is a masterpiece of diplomatic writing, the Count refutes the assertion of the Reis Effendi, by citing facts relative to the conduct of the Porte during the late events. He repeats the demands contained in the note of the Baron de Stroganoff, of the 18th July, and declares that this note must form the basis of all convention.

The report is current, though without authority, of the taking of Patras, by assault. It is added, that the Greeks found thirty-two of their hostages massacred; and that, in revenge, they put the whole of the garrison to the sword.

The whole of the Island of Zante is in a state of insurrection against the Anglo-Ionian authorities. Troops from Corfu are expected.

The Turks have just hanged six more Bishops in Bulgaria, among whom was the famous Bishop of Philippopolis. This execution took place in the beginning of the present month.

Partial murders continue at Smyrna, and are now uniformly unpunished. On the 5th November, news was received that the Persians had taken Bagdad and marched for Erzeroom.

Letters were received in town yesterday, which state that they have begun to fortify Constantinople.

Paris, Dec. 16.—*Royal Ordonnances.*—Louis, by the Grace of God, &c. We have ordered, and do order as follows:—The Sieur Peyrounet, Member of the Chamber of Deputies, is appointed Minister Secretary of State for the department of Justice and keeper of the Seals. Viscount Montmerency, Peer of France, Minister Secretary of State for the department of Foreign Affairs. Marshal the Duke of Belluno, Peer of France, Minister Secretary of State for the department of War. The Sieur Corbier, Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Minister Secretary of State for the department of the interior. The Marquis de Clermont Tonnerre, Peer of France, Minister Secretary of State for the department of the Marine. The Sieur de Villele, Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Minister Secretary of State for the department of Finance. Our Minister Secretary of State for the department of our Household is charged with execution of the preordonnance. Given at Paris from the Castle of the Tuileries, Dec. 14 in the year of grace 1821, and the 27th of our reign.

(Signed)

(By order of the King)

LOUIS.

LAURISTON,

The following Extracts are from Papers brought us by the BACCARRAS.

London, Dec. 4, 1821.—Papers from New York to the 11th ultimo arrived yesterday, which contain a variety of important intelligence relating to Spanish America. In Mexico it is now certain that affairs have relapsed into their former state of confusion and uncertainty. General O'Donoju, the new Viceroy nominated by the Cortes, after the signature of the treaty with IRUNDIDE at Cordova, on the 24th of August, proceeded with that Chief to Mexico, where he had an interview with Marshal NOVELLA, the Viceroy chosen by the army, but was unable to obtain his sanction to the treaty, or his acknowledgment of the rank conferred on him by Spain. IRUNDIDE therefore drew his army nearer to the capital, and invested it. A battle was fought on the 5th of September, in which the Independents (or, as they have latterly been designated, the Imperial army of the three

guarantees) were repulsed. They subsequently sued for an armistice, which was granted them by NOVELLA. Another attempt at conciliation followed, but the propositions of ITURBIDE appeared so extravagant to NOVELLA, that he rejected them all, and hostilities recommenced on the 13th. Both parties were concentrating their resources for a general engagement, which was expected to take place the latter end of September.

The 2d battalion of the 1st regiment of Guards, performing duty at Windsor, amounting to about 550 men, received instructions on Sunday last to hold themselves in readiness to proceed to Knightsbridge barracks, where they arrived on Tuesday evening. This battalion is to succeed the 3d battalion of the same regiment now on their route for Ireland.—*Morning Chronicle*.

On the Spanish main the contest, which has been for a long time been feebly maintained by the Royalists, is rapidly drawing to its close. Cumana was taken by General BERMUDEZ on the 15th of October, and the garrison, consisting of 1,100 men, shipped off for the island of Porto Rico. An expedition was preparing at Caracas, in which the English troops who had entered the service of the Republic were to be principally employed, against Panama, to which place they were to proceed by land, after disembarking either at Santa Martha or at Cartagena. MORALES, one of the Generals left in command of the remnant of Royalist troops at Puerto Cabello, had arrived at Curaçoa, with the hopeless design of raising \$50,000 dollars there for the continuance of the war. So lively was the interest felt at Curaçoa in behalf of the Independents, that they determined to seize the opportunity of being revenged on MORALES, who would have fallen a victim to their fury, but for the active protection of the Government.

Letters from Gibraltar of the 12th ult. state, that a French 74-gun ship passed through the Straits on the morning of that day to the eastward, supposed to be on her voyage to reinforce their squadron in the Archipelago.

Letters from Patras of the 1st ult. were received yesterday, which confirm the fall of Tripolliga, but give a different account of the manner in which the place was conquered. They say that the Albanian Turks, who formed its garrison, unfaithful to their trust, had delivered it up to the Greeks. Whether accurate or not, this account obtained entire credit at Patras, where they in consequence deemed it prudent to disband and send away from the place all the Albanian Turks in the citadel. By this step the garrison of Patras was so much weakened, that resistance to the Greeks was no longer contemplated; and they had made preparations to destroy the fortress, which they were prepared to quit immediately on the approach of the enemy. All the inhabitants, likewise, held themselves in readiness to leave Patras at a moment's notice.

London, Dec. 7, 1821.—It was reported yesterday that the Marquess WELLESLEY will be sworn in this day; and that tomorrow the Noble Lord will proceed to Ireland.

Letters from Rome of the 9th ultimo represent the inhabitants of that city to be enthusiastic in the cause of the Greeks. A squadron is expected to sail shortly either for the coast of Africa or the Archipelago; several young Romans of the richest families are desirous of equipping some vessels at their own expence, to cruise against the Turks. Permission has even been solicited from the POPE to execute their enterprise. A Deputation waited upon his Holiness to this effect; the reply they received from the POPE was, "that he wished the young men who were desirous of giving so great a proof of religion and humanity, would wait until all Christians were armed against the infidels, in order to relieveth their brethren from the persecutions of which they were the daily victims."

Letters dated the 26th of October have been received from Havannah. They state, that on the 29th of September, ITURBIDE the leader of the army of the Three Guarantees, and General O'DONOJU, became masters of the city of Mexico without resistance, either from the Chiefs, the Corporations, or the select part of the inhabitants, who all decided for independence.—DAVILLA, the Governor of Vera Cruz, had thrown a strong force into the

fortress of St. John de Ulloa, which commands the city, but with this exception the whole of Mexico is said to have fallen into the power of ITURBIDE and O' DONOJU.

London, Dec. 8.—The intelligence from Ireland is of the most distressing nature. Blood continues to be shed, and outrages of every description to be perpetrated to an extent calculated to excite the utmost alarm. THE COURIER, in noticing a case of murder, says—

"The circumstances attending its commission are shocking to read. They disclose such a horrible eagerness for blood, such unmitigated barbarity, that it is hardly possible to repress the wish of seeing the perpetrators not brought to justice like men who have offended against the laws of society, but hunted down like beasts of prey."

This reminds us of the language which was applied to the French at the time an ignorant and infuriated populace were stimulated to acts of a nature revolting to humanity.

A dog bites the stone with which he is struck, a man looks to the hand which threw it. It would serve very much to mitigate our hatred of these poor ignorant savages, to reflect that they are the creatures of circumstances, that they would have been as mild and orderly as they are now the reverse, if the measures proper to give them these qualities had ever been taken.

Who are chiefly to blame in this case? Certainly those who have not taken the steps to humanize the Irish, who have left them to their ignorance and their prejudices.

The evil did not originate with the present Ministers; but they have continued it and even added to it. To get into place, they wrought on the prejudices of our late Sovereign, and raised a fanatical cry of No Popery throughout the country. Had the Whigs continued in office, we should by this time probably have found the Protestant and Catholic living together in the most cordial union, and knowledge and improvement taking fast root in the country. But as the Turks would say—it was written that the Tories should get into office, and that Ireland should in consequence be a scene of anarchy and bloodshed. The ways of Providence are inscrutable.

Those who know any thing of the state of things in Ireland, can hardly be surprised at the present excesses in it, however enormous they are. How can we expect that the people should obey the law when they see the law every day wrested to their destruction? They are the enemies of the law, because the law is their enemy. In almost all but the north of Ireland, the law has never yet been enforced. Hear Mr. WAKEFIELD—

"In matters of arrest, a writ might as well be sent to the captain of a Newfoundland trader, as to a Sheriff's Court; it would be an immediate fee in the pocket of the Sub-sheriff, who would apprise the debtor of his danger, and in return receive the expected present; where the higher classes are concerned, the common expression is 'What! arrest a gentleman!' I should not venture to exhibit a charge of this kind, were I not certain of the fact. I have experienced practical instances of this corruption myself, and I could relate upwards of five hundred, which have been communicated to me by respectable persons."

"Again—Under the present system, the existence of a few of the uninformed seems not of much moment; the immoral and unfortunate poor are whipped without mercy, and hanged without regret. Yet these examples produce little effect; the timid, indeed, are restrained for a time; but the daring are hardened in their crimes. The dread of punishment soon ceases to predominate in the human breast, and the illiterate are not apt to reflect upon consequences, but are accustomed to act as their present feelings dictate. Thus the lower ranks in this country, exemplifying the above remark, engage in scenes of riot without remorse; and the unworthy and imbecile magistrate, who indirectly countenances and promotes the violence, is often suffered to retain his abused situation."

Much of the difficulty now to be encountered is charged, we perceive, to the account of the disposition to fraud and artifice

possessed by the lower Irish Catholics, which renders it almost impossible to guard against their combinations. Habits of fraud and artifice are the constant result of oppression. Fraud, for instance, seems inherent in the very nature of the lower Russians. The independent and straight forward Norwegians, who come in contact with them as traders in the North Sea, complain of the almost utter impossibility of avoiding being cheated by them. The duplicity of the lower Poles has also been frequently remarked. Nay, even in England the oppression resulting from the mode of administering the Poor Laws in the South of it have already taken much from the open character of the people. A most intelligent Scots farmer, some time settled in Wiltshire, affirms that the labourers in that part of the country have recourse to a hundred little artifices, of which the more independent Scots labourer has not even a conception.

The ignorance of the Catholics, and their oppression, which act and re-act on each other, must be got the better of. Let Government place both religions on an equal footing, remedy some of the other grievances, and take proper measures for enlightening the mass of the people. We are aware that at present the priests are averse to the instruction of the people. Indeed, the man who should penetrate into several parts of Ireland with a view to communicate a knowledge of letters, would expose himself to very serious danger. Mr. CONOLLY is on this subject an excellent witness. But the Catholic Priests must themselves be raised in the scale of intellect and liberality.—This may be done in various ways. The greatest benefit has been experienced in Germany from the same University being partly Catholic and partly Protestant. This brings the Catholics in contact with the more spirited and enlightened Protestants, and insensibly approximates them to each other in liberality of views. Hence of all the Catholics, the Germans are by far the most liberal. Let the Legislature make such additions to Trinity College as would enable the Catholics to dispense with that wretched receptacle of Monkish bigotry, Maynooth College, and the good effects will soon be discovered. We do not mean to say that Trinity College is to be compared, in point of liberality, to the Universities of Germany. But compared with Maynooth, it is liberality itself. At all events, the young men of the two religions would soon lose the repugnance for each other which now prevails. This would of itself go far to annihilate sectarian fury in the persons who would have most influence over the people.

The establishment of primary schools, upon a comprehensive principle—that is, with reference to the religion in each place, ought also to be one of the first objects of the Legislature. A knowledge of the English language cannot fail in time to bring the people acquainted with good books. JEREMY TAYLOR complained that in his time—

“The numerous companies of Priests and Friars among them take care they shall know nothing of religion, but what they design for them; they use all means to keep them to the use of the Irish tongue, lest, if they learn English, they might be supplied with persons fitter to instruct them.”—*Morning Chronicle*.

Extract from letters from Madrid, dated November 19, 1821:

The unfortunate Code has been so belaboured, that it is wholly covered with blows and bruises—and now comes Bentham—cruel giant! to give it a *coup de grace*. The *impugnacion* and objections, form, a Member of the Cortes tells me, a most enormous pile, and when in the Cortes it was proposed they should be printed for the enlightenment of “honorable Gentlemen;” the answer was, “They are too many—it is impossible.” So the pretty patch work is torn to rags. And how is it to be mended? This is a fine elucidation of what Bentham has written on the necessity of a Code being produced by a single hand. Nay, I am now persuaded that a single hand would produce a better work, if guided by a lesser portion of mind than would be produced by the unison of many individuals, each with a greater portion of mind. I have heard the Code discussed by the rich and the poor—by the learned and the ignorant. But I have not found one individual whose opinion has not been thrown into the scale of dispraise and dissatisfaction. I find that the authors of many of the representations to the Cortes on the subject of the Code, have

determined to print—finding the Cortes refusing to give circulation to their opinions.

Letters to Torano.—No, they will not be lost here. Those received have been given to P., who is impregnated with their spirit, and promises to introduce them to the Cortes when the question is discussed.

An unfortunate law-suit—by unfortunate I mean protracted—has lately thrown me among a good many lawyers; and I have heard Bentham's name and works introduced, on occasions when no one could have anticipated it. He has, I see, obtained a very strong hold on the affections of this generous people—and I believe no foreign writer was ever before so often on their lips. They have a notion too that he has a special affection for the Peninsula; “and Spain, as his favourite country,” was the conclusion of an eulogium I heard the other day, in a stage-coach—which eulogium was echoed by every body there. His name is posted up on all the walls of Madrid—“*El celebre Jurisconsulto Jeremias Bentham*,” and he is quoted continually in the periodicals.

The Light Horse Volunteers have offered their services to do duty at the Horse Guards in event of the Horse Guards being ordered to Ireland, which is hourly expected.

Sir R. Wilson.—On the dismissal of Sir R. Wilson, the TRAVELLER says:—“Let us contemplate the political effect of this measure. We see by the Red Book that there are on the list of the army 100 Generals, 199 Lieutenant-Generals, 800 Major-Generals, 1150 Colonels and Lieutenant-Colonels, and 1000 Majors, in all 2659, without including Captains and Subalterns. There are 1792 Admirals, Captains and Commanders in the Navy. All these persons are gentlemen, whose stations in life naturally give them some political influence. They are connected, some or other of them, with almost all the families in the kingdom. Formidable enough is the influence which the government must at any rate possess, from its power over the fate of these individuals; but the power is tremendously increased when they are reduced to a dependence on the ministers more complete than that of servants on their masters; when they are liable to be dismissed without any known or assigned cause, or any public trial or inquiry. It is the duty of Englishmen to show, in this signal instance, that a high-spirited man shall not suffer by such a perversion of the powers of the Crown.”

Mr. Pitt.—The great Mr. Pitt, the first Earl of Chatham, was, it is well known, a most strenuous and powerful opposer of the measures of Sir Robert Walpole's administration. Only the year following his entrance into the House of Commons, and the commencement of his opposition, Sir Robert felt himself so irritated by Mr. Pitt's conduct, that he made no hesitation in depriving him of a cornetcy that he held in a regiment of horse, and dismissing him from the service. As Mr. Pitt had an elder brother and five sisters, his fortune was so far from being considerable, that a few admiring friends had presented him with this commission as a small addition to his income. “The imprudent, violent, and unconstitutional conduct of Sir Robert Walpole,” according to Mr. Pitt's biographer, “so far from diminishing Mr. Pitt's consequence in the eyes of his patrons and the public, very considerably increased it in both. His friend Mr. Lyttleton, afterwards the famous Lord L——, addressed the following lines to him on the occasion.

TO WILLIAM PITT, ESQ. ON HIS LOSING HIS COMMISSION.

“Long had thy virtues marked thee out for fame,
Far, far superior to a cornet's name:
This generous Walpole saw, and griev'd to find
So mean a post, disgrace so great a mind.
The servile standard from the free-born hand
He took, and bade thee lead the patriot band.”

One cannot help being struck with the similarity of the cases of Mr. Pitt and Sir Robert Wilson—each attempted to be crushed by a fallen administration, and each rising superior to ministerial meanness. The measures that dictated each were equally “imprudent, violent, and unconstitutional,” the motives equally palsy and unmanly, and the aim of Ministers will be defeated in the one as it was in the other.—*Norwich Courier*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—117—

American Congress.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, —TUESDAY, DEC. 4, 1821.

The house resumed the business of yesterday, by continuing to ballot for a Speaker. On the twelfth ballot, P. P. BARBOUR, of Virginia, was elected. The votes were, for Barbour 83, Taylor 67, Rodney 3, Smith 4, Baldwin 6, scattering 4.

Mr. Barbour was conducted to the Chair, and addressed the House in a short but pertinent speech.

Thomas Dougherty was re-elected Clerk, Thomas Dunn, Sergeant at Arms, and Benjamin Burch, appointed Door Keeper.

Washington City, Dec. 5. —At 12 o'clock this day, the President of the United States transmitted to both Houses of Congress by Mr. S. L. Gouverneur, the following

MESSAGE.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate, and of the House of Representatives,

The progress of our affairs since the last session has been such as may justly be claimed and expected, under a government deriving all its powers from an enlightened people, and under laws formed by their representatives, on great considerations, for the sole purpose of promoting the welfare and happiness of their constituents. In the execution of those laws, and of the powers vested by the constitution in the Executive unremitted attention has been paid to the great objects to which they extend. In the concerns which are exclusively internal, there is good cause to be satisfied with the result. The laws have had their due operation and effect. In those relating to foreign powers, I am happy to state, that peace and amity are preserved with all, by a strict observance, on both sides, of the rights of each. In matters touching our commercial intercourse where a difference of opinion has existed, in any case as to the conditions on which it should be placed, each party has pursued its own policy, without giving just cause of offence to the other. In this annual communication, especially when it is addressed to a new Congress, the whole scope of our political concerns naturally comes into view; that errors if such have been committed, may be corrected; that defects which have become manifest, may be remedied; and on the other hand that measures which were adopted on due deliberation, and which experience has shown are just in themselves, and essential to the public welfare, should be persevered in and supported. In performing this necessary and very important duty, I shall endeavour to place before you on its merits, every subject that is thought to be entitled to your particular attention, in as distinct and clear a light as I may be able.

By an act of the third of March, 1815, so much of the several acts as imposed higher duties on the tonnage of foreign vessels, and on the manufactures and productions of foreign nations when imported into the United States in foreign vessels, than when imported in vessels of the United States, were repealed, so far as respected the manufactures and productions of the nation to which such vessel belonged, on the condition, that the repeal should take effect only in favor of any foreign nation, when the Executive should be satisfied that such discriminating duties, to the disadvantage of the United States, had likewise been repealed by such nation. By this act a proposition was made to all nations to place our commerce with each on a basis, which, it was presumed, would be acceptable to all. Every nation was allowed to bring its manufactures and productions into our ports, and to take the manufactures and productions of the United States back to their ports in their own vessels, on the same conditions that they might be transported in vessels of the United States; and, in return, it was required that a like accommodation should be granted to the vessels of the United States in the ports of other powers. The articles to be admitted, or prohibited, on either side, formed no part of the proposed arrangement. Each party would retain the right to admit or prohibit such articles from the other, as it thought proper and on its own conditions.

When the nature of the commerce between the United States and every other country was taken into view, it was thought that this proposition would be considered fair, and even liberal by every power. —The exports of the United States consist generally of articles of the first necessity, and of rude materials in demand for foreign manufactories, of great bulk, requiring for their transportation many vessels, the return for which in the manufactures and productions of any foreign country, even when disposed of there to advantage, may be brought in a single vessel. This observation is more especially applicable to those countries from which manufactures alone are imported, but it applies, in a great extent to the European dominions of every European power, and, in a certain extent, to all the colonies of these powers. By placing then, the navigation precisely on the same ground, in the transportation of exports and imports, between the United States and other countries, it was presumed that all was offered which could be desired. It seemed to be the only proposition which could be devised, which would retain even the semblance of equality in our favor.

Many considerations of great weight gave us a right to expect that this commerce should be extended to the colonies, as well as to the European dominions of other powers. With the latter, especially with countries exclusively manufacturing, the advantage was manifestly on their side. An indemnity for that loss was expected from a trade with the colonies, and, with the greater reason, as it was known that the supplies which the colonies derived from us were of the highest importance to them, their labor being bestowed with so much greater profit in the culture of other articles; and because, likewise, the articles of which those supplies consisted, forming so large a proportion of the exports of the United States, were never admitted into any of the ports of Europe except in cases of great emergency, to avert a serious calamity. When no article is admitted which is not required to supply the wants of the party admitting it, and admitted then, not in favor of any particular country, to the disadvantage of others, but on conditions equally applicable to all, it seems just that the articles thus admitted and invited should be carried thither in the vessels of the country affording such supply, and that the reciprocity should be found in a corresponding accommodation on the other side. By allowing each party to participate in the transportation of such supplies, on the payment of equal tonnage, a strong proof was afforded of an accommodating spirit. To abandon to it the transportation of the whole would be a sacrifice which ought not to be expected. The demand, in the present instance, would be the more unreasonable, in consideration of the inequality existing in the trade with the parent country.

Such was the basis of our system, as established by the act of 1815, and such its true character. In the year in which this act was passed, a treaty was concluded with Great Britain, in strict conformity with its principles, in regard to her European dominions. To her colonies, however, in the West Indies and on this continent, it was not extended, the British government claiming the exclusive supply of those colonies and from our own ports, and of the productions of the colonies, in return, in her own vessels. To this claim the United States could not assent, and, in consequence, each party suspended the intercourse in the vessels of the other, by a prohibition which still exists.

The same conditions were offered to France, but not accepted. Her Government has demanded other conditions, more favorable to her navigation, and which should also give extraordinary encouragement to her manufactures and productions, in the ports of the United States. To these it was thought improper to accede, and, in consequence the restrictive regulations, which had been adopted on her part, being countervailed on the part of the United States, the direct commerce, between the two countries in the vessels of each party, has been in a great measure suspended. —It is much to be regretted, that, although a negotiation has been long pending, such is the diversity of views entertained, on the various points, which have been brought into discussion, that there does not appear to be any reasonable prospect of its early conclusion.

It is my duty to state, as a cause of very great regret, that very serious differences have occurred in this negotiation, respecting the construction of the 8th article of the Treaty of 1803, whereby Louisiana was ceded to the United States, and likewise respecting the seizure of the Apollo, in 1820, for a violation of our revenue laws. The claim of the government of France has excited not less surprise than concern, because there does not appear to be a just foundation for it, in either instance. By the 8th article of the Treaty referred to, it is stipulated that, after the expiration of twelve years, during which it was provided, by the preceding or 7th article, that the vessels of France and Spain should be admitted into the ports of the ceded Territory, without paying higher duties on merchandize, or tonnage on the vessels, than such as were paid by the citizens of the United States, the ships of France should forever afterwards be placed on a footing with the most favored nation. By the obvious construction of this article, it is presumed that it was intended, that no favour should be granted to any power, in those ports, to which France should not be forthwith entitled; nor should any accommodation be allowed, to another power, on conditions, to which she would not, also, be entitled upon the same conditions. Under this construction, no favor, or accommodation could be granted to any power, to the prejudice of France. By allowing the equivalent, allowed by those powers, she would always stand, in those ports, on the footing of the most favored nation. But if this article should be so construed, as that France should enjoy of right, and without paying the equivalent, all the advantages of such conditions, as might be allowed to other powers, in return for important concessions made by them, then the whole character of the stipulation would be changed. She would not be placed on the footing of the most favored nation, but on a footing held by no other nation. She would enjoy all the advantages allowed to them, in consideration of like advantages allowed to us, free from every and any condition whatever.

As little cause has the government of France to complain of the seizure of the Apollo, and the removal of other vessels, from the waters

of the St. Mary's. It will not be denied that every nation has a right to regulate its commercial system, as it thinks fit, and to enforce the collection of its revenue, provided it be done without an invasion of the rights of other powers. The violation of its revenue laws is an offence, which all nations punish—the punishment of which gives no just cause of complaint to the power to which the offender belongs, provided it be extended to all equally. In this case every circumstance which occurred, indicated a fixed purpose to violate our revenue laws. Had the party intended to have pursued a fair trade, he would have entered our ports, and paid the duties; or had he intended to have carried on a legitimate circuitous commerce with the United States he would have entered the port of some other power, landed his goods at the custom house according to law, and re-shipped and sent them in the vessels of such power, or of some other power which might lawfully being them free from such duties, to a port in the United States. But the conduct of the party in this case was altogether different. He entered the river St. Mary's, the boundary between the United States and Florida, and took his position on the Spanish side, on which in the whole extent of the river there was no town, no port, or custom house, and scarcely any settlement. His purpose, therefore, was not to sell his goods to the inhabitants of Florida, but to the United States, in exchange for their productions, which could not be done without a direct and palpable breach of our laws. It is known that a regular systematic plan had been formed by certain other persons for the violation of our revenue system, which made it the more necessary to check the proceeding in its commencement.

That the unsettled bank of a river so remote from the Spanish garrison and population, could give no protection to any party in such a practice, is believed to be in strict accord with the law of nations. It would not have comported with a friendly policy in Spain herself, to have established a customhouse there, since it could have subverted no other purpose, than to elude our revenue laws. But the Government of Spain did not adopt that measure. On the contrary, it is understood, that the Captain General of Cuba, to whom an application to that effect was made, by these adventurers, had not acceded to it. The condition of those provinces for many years before they were ceded to the United States, need not now be dwelt on. Inhabited by different tribes of Indians, an inland for every kind of adventurer, the jurisdiction of Spain may be said to have been almost exclusively confined to her garrisons. It certainly could not extend to places where she had no authority. The rules therefore applicable to settled countries governed by laws, could not be deemed so to the deserts of Florida, and to the occurrences there.—It merits attention, also, that the Territory had been ceded to the United States, by a treaty, the ratification of which had not been refused, and which has since been performed. Under such circumstances therefore, Spain became less responsible for such acts committed there, and the United States more at liberty to exercise authority, to prevent so great a mischief. The conduct of this Government has, in every instance, been conciliatory and friendly to France. The construction of our revenue law, in its application to the cases, which have formed the ground of such serious complaint on her part, and the order to the Collector of St. Mary's in accord with it, were given two years before these cases occurred, and in reference to a breach, which was attempted by the subjects of another power. Its application, therefore, to the cases in question, was inevitable. As soon as the treaty by which these provinces were ceded to the United States was ratified, and all danger of further breach of our revenue laws ceased, an order was given for the release of the vessel which had been seized, and for the dismissal of the libel which had been instituted against her.

The principles of this system of reciprocity, founded on the law of the 3d of March, 1815, have been since carried into effect, with the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Sweden, Prussia, and with Hamburg, Bremen, Lubeck, and Oldenburg, with a provision made by subsequent laws, in regard to the Netherlands, Prussia, Hamburg, and Bremen, that such produce and manufactures, as could only be, or most usually were, first shipped from the ports of those countries, the same being imported in vessels, wholly belonging to their subjects, should be considered and admitted as their own manufactures and productions.

The government of Norway has, by an ordinance, opened the ports of that part of the dominions of the King of Sweden, to the vessels of the United States, upon the payment of no other or higher duties than are paid by the Norwegian vessels, from whatever place arriving and with whatever articles laden. They have requested the reciprocal allowance for the vessels of Norway in the ports of the United States. As this privilege is not within the scope of the act of the 3d of March, 1815, and can only be granted by Congress, and as it may involve the commercial relations of the Union with other nations, the subject is submitted to the wisdom of Congress.

I have presented thus fully to your view our commercial relations with other powers, that, seeing them in detail, with each power, and knowing the basis on which they rest, Congress may in its wisdom decide, whether any change ought to be made, and if any, in what respect. If this basis is unjust or unreasonable, surely it ought to be abandoned;

but if it be just and reasonable, and any change in it will make concessions subversive of the principles of equality, and tending in its consequences to sap the foundations of our prosperity, then the reasons are equally strong, for adhering to the ground already taken, and supporting it by such further regulations as may appear to be proper, should any additional support be found necessary.

The question concerning the construction of the first article of the treaty of Ghent has been by a joint act of the Representatives of the United States and of Great Britain at the court of St. Petersburg, submitted to the decision of his Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of Russia. The result of that submission has not yet been received. The Commissioners under the 5th article of that treaty not having been able to agree upon their decision, their reports to the two governments, conformably to the provisions of the treaty, may be expected at an early day.

With Spain, the treaty of February 22, 1819, has been partly carried into execution. Possession of the East and West Florida has been given to the United States; but the officers charged with that service, by an order from his Catholic Majesty, delivered by his Minister to the Secretary of State, and transmitted by a social agent to the Captain General of Cuba to whom it was directed and in whom the government of these provinces was vested, have not only omitted, in contravention of the orders of their sovereign, the performance of the express stipulation, to deliver over the archives and documents relating to the property and sovereignty of those provinces, all of which it was expected would have been delivered, either before or when the troops were withdrawn, but defeated since every effort of the United States to obtain them, especially those of the greatest importance. This omission has given rise to several incidents of a painful nature, the character of which will be fully disclosed by the documents which will hereafter be communicated.

In every other circumstance, the law of the 3d of March last, for carrying into effect, that treaty has been duly attended to. For the execution of that part which preserved in force, for the government of the inhabitants, for the term specified, all the civil, military, and judicial powers, exercised by the existing government of those provinces, an adequate number of officers, as was presumed were appointed and ordered to their respective stations. Both provinces were formed into one territory, and a governor appointed for it; but in consideration of the pre-existing division and of the distance and difficulty of communication between Pensacola, the residence of the Governor of West Florida, and St. Augustine, that of the governor of East Florida, at which places, the inconsiderable population of each province was principally collected, two Secretaries were appointed, one to reside at Pensacola and the other at St. Augustine. Due attention was likewise paid to the execution of the laws of the United States, relating to the revenue and the slave trade, which were extended to these provinces. The whole territory was divided into three collection districts, that part lying between the river St. Mary's and Cape Florida, forming one, that from the Cape to the Apalachicola, another, and that from the Apalachicola to the Perdido, the third. To these districts, the usual number of revenue officers were appointed, and to secure the due operation of these laws, one judge and a district attorney were appointed, to reside at Pensacola, and likewise one judge and a district attorney to reside at St. Augustine, with a specified boundary between them, and one marshal for the whole, with authority to appoint a deputy. In carrying this law into effect, and especially that part of it relating to the powers of the existing government of those provinces, it was thought important, in consideration of the short term for which it was to operate and the radical change which would be made at the approaching session of Congress, to avoid expense, to make no appointment which should not be absolutely necessary to give effect to those powers, to withdraw none of our citizens from other pursuits, whereby to subject the government to claims which could not be gratified, and the parties to losses, which it would be painful to witness.

It has been seen with much concern, that, in the performance of these duties, a collision arose between the Governor of the territory, and the judge appointed for the western district. It was presumed that the law under which this transitory government was organized, and the commissions which were granted to the officers who were appointed to execute each branch of the system, and to which the commissions were adapted, would have been understood in the same sense, by them, in which they were understood by the Executive. Much allowance is due to officers employed in each branch of this system and the more so, as there is good cause to believe that each acted under a conviction that he possessed the power which he undertook to exercise. Of the officer, holding the principal station, I think it proper to observe, that he accepted it with reluctance, in compliance with the invitation given him; and from a high sense of duty to his country, being willing to contribute to the consummation of an event, which would ensure complete protection to an important part of our Union, which had suffered much from incursion and invasion, and to the defence of which his gallant and patriotic service had been so signally and usefully devoted.

From the intrinsic difficulty of executing laws deriving their origin from different sources, and so essentially different in many important circumstances, the advantage and, indeed, the necessity, of establishing as soon as may be practicable, a well organized government over that territory, on the principles of our system, is recommended to the early consideration of Congress.

In compliance with an injunction of the law of the 3d of March last three commissioners have also been appointed, and a Board organized, for carrying into effect the eleventh article of the Treaty above recited, making provision for the payment of such of our citizens as have well founded claims on Spain, of the character specified by that Treaty. This Board has entered on its duties and made some progress therein. The Commissioner and Surveyor of his Catholic Majesty, provided for by the fourth article of the Treaty, have not yet arrived in the United States, but are soon expected. As soon as they do arrive, corresponding appointments will be made, and every facility be afforded for the due execution of this service.

The Government of his Most Faithful Majesty, since the termination of the last session of Congress, has been removed from Rio de Janeiro to Lisbon, where a revolution similar to that which had occurred in the neighbouring kingdom of Spain, had in like manner been sanctioned by the accepted and pledged faith of the reigning Monarch. The diplomatic intercourse between the United States and the Portuguese dominions interrupted by that important event, has not yet been resumed, but the change of internal administration having already materially affected the commercial intercourse of the United States with the Portuguese dominions, the renewal of the public missions between the two countries appears to be advisable at an early day.

It is understood, that the colonies in South-America have had great success during the present year, in the struggle for their independence. The new government of Colombia has extended its territories, and considerably augmented its strength; and at Buenos Ayres, where civil dissension had for some time before prevailed, greater harmony and better order appear to have been established. Equal success has attended their efforts in the Provinces on the Pacific. It has long been manifest, that it would be impossible for Spain to reduce these colonies by force, and equally so, that no conditions, short of their independence, would be satisfactory to them. It may therefore be presumed, and it is earnestly hoped, that the government of Spain, guided by enlightened and liberal councils, will find it to comport with its interests, and be due to its magnanimity, to terminate this exhausting controversy on that basis. To promote this result by friendly counsel with the government of Spain, will be the object of the government of the United States.

In conducting the fiscal operations of the year, it has been found necessary to carry into full effect the act of the last session of Congress, authorising a loan of five millions of dollars.—This sum has been raised at an average premium of five dollars fifty-nine hundredths per cent. upon stock bearing an interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum, redeemable at the option of the government of the 1st day of January, 1835.

There has been issued, under the provisions of this act, four millions, seven hundred and thirty five thousand two hundred and ninety-six dollars, thirty cents, of five per cent. stock; and there has been or will be, redeemed during the year, three millions one hundred and ninety seven thousand thirty dollars, seventy one cents. of Louisiana six per cent. and deferred stock, and Mississippi stock. There has therefore been an actual increase of the public debt, contracted during the year, of one million five hundred and thirty eight thousand two hundred and sixty six dollars, sixty nine cents.

The receipts into the Treasury from the first of January to the 30th of September last, have amounted to sixteen millions two hundred and nineteen thousand one hundred and ninety seven dollars, seventy cents, which, with the balance of one million one hundred and ninety eight thousand four hundred and sixty-one dollars, twenty-one cents, in the Treasury on the former day, make the aggregate sum of seventeen millions four hundred and seventeen thousand six hundred and fifty-eight dollars, ninety one cents.

The payments from the Treasury during the same period have amounted to fifteen millions six hundred and forty-five thousand two hundred and eighty-eight dollars, forty-seven cents, leaving in the Treasury, on the last mentioned day, the sum of one million seven hundred and sixty-two thousand three hundred and seventy dollars, forty-four cents. It is estimated that the receipts of the fourth quarter of the year will exceed the demands which will be made on the Treasury during the same period, and that the amount in the Treasury on the 30th of September last, will be increased on the first day of January next.

At the close of the last session, it was anticipated that the progressive diminution of the public revenue in 1819 and 1820, which had been the result of the languid state of our foreign commerce in those years, had, in the latter year reached its extreme point of depression. It has, however, been ascertained, that that point was

reached only at the termination of the first quarter of the present year. From that time, until the 30th of September last, the duties secured have exceeded those of the corresponding quarters of the last year by one million one hundred and seventy-two thousand dollars, whilst the amount of debentures issued during the three first quarters of this year, is nine hundred and fifty-two thousand dollars less than that of the same quarters of the last year.

There are just grounds to believe that the improvement which has occurred in the revenue, during the last mentioned period, will not only be maintained, but that it will progressively increase through the next and several succeeding years, so as to realize the results, which were presented upon that subject, by the official reports of the Treasury, at the commencement of the last session of Congress.

Under the influence of the most unfavorable circumstances, the revenue for the next and subsequent years, to the year 1825, will exceed the demands at present authorised by law.

It may fairly be presumed, that, under the protection given to domestic manufactures, by the existing laws, we shall become, at no distant period, a manufacturing country, on an extensive scale. Possessing as we do, the raw material in such vast amount, with a capacity to augment them to an indefinite extent; raising within the country allment of every kind, to an amount far exceeding the demand for home consumption, even in the most unfavorable years, and to be obtained always at a very moderate price; skilled also as our people are in the mechanic arts, and in every improvement calculated to lessen the demand for, and the price of labor, it is manifest that their success in every branch of domestic industry, may, and will be carried, under the encouragement given by the present duties, to an extent to meet any demand, which, under a fair competition, may be made on it.

A considerable increase of domestic manufactures, by diminishing the importation of foreign, will probably tend to lessen the amount of the public revenue. As, however, a large proportion of the revenue, which is derived from duties, is raised from other articles than manufactures, the demand for which will increase with our population, it is believed, that a fund will still be raised from that source, adequate to the great part of the national expenditures, especially as those expenditures, should we continue to be blessed with peace, will be diminished by the completion of the fortifications, dock yards, and other public works; by the augmentation of the navy to the point to which it is proposed to carry it, and by the payment of the public debt, including pensions for military services.

It cannot be doubted, that the more complete our internal resources, and the less dependent we are on foreign powers, for every national, as well as domestic purpose, the greater and more stable will be the public felicity. By the increase of domestic manufactures, will the demand for the rude materials at home be increased, and thus will the dependence of the several parts of our Union on each other, and the strength of the Union itself, be proportionably augmented. In this process, which is very desirable, and inevitable under the existing duties, the resources which obviously present themselves to supply a deficiency in the revenue, should it occur, are the interests which may derive the principal benefit from the change. If domestic manufactures are raised by duties on foreign, the deficiency in the fund necessary for public purposes should be supplied by duties on the former. At the last session, it seemed doubtful, whether the revenue derived from the present sources would be adequate to all the great purposes of our Union, including the construction of our fortifications, the augmentation of our navy, and the protection of our commerce against the dangers to which it is exposed. Had the deficiency been such as to subject us to the necessity, either to abandon those measures of defence, or to resort to other means for adequate funds, the course presented to the adoption of a virtuous and enlightened people appeared to be a plain one. It must be gratifying to all to know, that this necessity does not exist. Nothing, however, in contemplation of such important objects, which can be easily provided for, should be left to hazard. It is thought the revenue may receive an augmentation from the existing sources, and in a manner to aid our manufactures, without hastening prematurely the result which has been suggested.—It is believed that a moderate additional duty on certain articles would have that effect, without being liable to any serious objection.

The examination of the whole coast, for the construction of permanent fortifications, from St. Croix to the Sabine, with the exception of a part of the territory acquired lately, will be complete in the present year, as will be the survey of the Mississippi, under the resolution of the House of Representatives, from the mouth of the Ohio to the Ocean—and likewise, of the Ohio from Louisville to the Mississippi. A progress, corresponding with the sums appropriated, has also been made in the construction of these fortifications, at the points designated. As they will form a system of defence for the whole maritime frontier, and in consequence, for the interior, and are to last for ages, the utmost care has been taken to fix the position of each work, and to form it on

such a scale as will be adequate to the purpose intended by it. All the inlets and assailable parts of our Union have been minutely examined, and positions taken, with a view to the best effect, observing, in every instance, a just regard to economy. Doubts, however, being entertained as to the propriety of the position and extent of the work at Dauphine Island, further progress in it was suspended, soon after the last session of Congress, and an order given to the Board of Engineers and Naval Commissioners, to make a further and more minute examination of it in both respects, and to report the result without delay.

Due progress has been made in the construction of vessels of war, according to the law providing for the gradual augmentation of the navy and to the extent of existing appropriations. The vessels authorised by the act of 1820 have all been completed and are now in actual service. None of the larger ships have been, or will be launched, for the present, the object being to protect all which may not be required for immediate service from decay, by suitable buildings erected over them. A squadron has been maintained, as heretofore, in the Mediterranean, by means whereof peace has been preserved with the Barbary powers. This squadron has been reduced during the present year to as small a force as is compatible with the fulfilment of the object intended by it. From past experience, and the best information respecting the views of those powers, it is distinctly understood that, should our squadron be withdrawn, they would soon re-commence their hostilities and depredations upon our commerce. Their fortifications have lately been rebuilt, and their maritime force increased. It has also been found necessary to maintain a naval force in the Pacific, for the protection of the very important interests of our citizens engaged in commerce and the fisheries in that sea. Vessels have likewise been employed in cruising along the Atlantic coast, in the Gulf of Mexico, on the coast of Africa, and in the neighbouring seas.—In the latter many piracies have been committed on our commerce, and so extensive was becoming the range of these unprincipled adventurers, that there was cause to apprehend without a timely and decisive effort to suppress them, the worst consequences would ensue. Fortunately a considerable check has been given to that spirit by our cruisers, who have succeeded in capturing and destroying several of their vessels. Nevertheless, it is considered an object of high importance to continue these cruises until the practice is entirely suppressed. Like success has attended our efforts to suppress the slave trade.—Under the flag of the United States, and the sanction of their papers, the trade may be considered as entirely suppressed—and if any of our citizens are engaged in it, under the flags and papers of other powers, it is only from a respect to the rights of those powers, that these offenders are not seized and brought home to receive the punishment which the laws inflict.—If every other power should adopt the same policy, and pursue the same vigorous means for carrying it into effect, the trade could no longer exist.

Deeply impressed with the blessings which we enjoy, and of which we have such manifold proofs, my mind is irresistibly drawn to that Almighty Being, the Great Source from whence they proceed, and to whom our most grateful acknowledgements are due.

JAMES MONROE.

Washington, December 3, 1821.

Fine Arts.

Mr. Wilkie has nearly completed his Picture of The Chelsea Pensioners reading the account of the Battle of Waterloo, for the Duke of Wellington.

Mr. Martin is making a rapid progress with a new subject. The Destruction of Herculaneum and Pompeii by an Eruption of Mount Vesuvius. This performance will far exceed Belshazzar's Feast; it is on the same size canvass, and is expressly painted for the Marquess of Buckingham.

Mr. Moss, the celebrated enameller, whose Head of Mr. West excited so much attention, has finished a very beautiful copy in enamel of Mr. Wilkie's admired Picture of Duncan Gray.

Mr. John Wilson, whose Marine Views at the Institution have been so eagerly sought after, will this year exhibit a View of Porto Bello Harbour near Edinburgh.

Mr. Newton—This Gentleman's Picture of the Author last year, will find a companion in the ensuing Exhibition, in Lovers' Quarrels, or, Returning the Letters and Presents.—The Artist has displayed great skill in his arrangement and choice of subjects.

Hoffland has nearly completed his large picture of London from Waterloo Bridge.

Mr. Charles Deane has a very fine Picture of Windsor Castle ready for exhibition.

Captain Jones is engaged on a very large picture of the Battle of Waterloo, which will be ready in the ensuing exhibition of the Institution. It is painted for G. Watson Taylor, Esq., M. P.

Monument to be erected in St. James's Park.

The following is an account of the Ladies' Monument, to commemorate the Victories of the British Arms in the Peninsula:—

"This stupendous and magnificent work of art is now completed, and will shortly be erected in St. James's Park, immediately opposite the Horse Guards, where the royal mortar formerly stood. The colossus is 18 feet high, and is cast in metal from the cannon taken during the war: it is to be placed upon a pedestal of Aberdeen granite, of the height of 12 feet, on which will be engraved an appropriate inscription. The original of this figure is on the Monte Cavallo, one of the seven hills on which Rome was built; it is executed in marble, and supposed to be the work of the celebrated Phidias: the analogy between this and the Elgin marbles certainly justifies the supposition. The figure is in an attitude of defiance, not unlike the Gladiator: in the right hand is a Roman sword, and on the left arm an orbicular shield."

Town Hall, Southwark.

(Singular Application.)

On the 19th of November, two ladies of matronly appearance, presented themselves before the presiding Magistrate (Alderman J. J. Smith), and requested his advice in a case of rather an extraordinary nature.

The eldest of these Ladies stated that for some months past she had been subjected to the intrusions of a Gentleman, who was, she had every reason to believe, insane, and from whose violence she had to dread the most serious consequences. This individual had conceived an attachment for her, "and was for everlasting" obtruding himself upon her notice, although she had decidedly forbidden his visits to her house. However, notwithstanding her request, he came almost every evening, and, on one or two occasions, had fired loaded pistols at her; he had at all times shown pistols when he found his acquaintance was not acknowledged; but until the present week, had never been guilty of such violence, although he had frequently threatened it.

Magistrate.—And pray, Madam, do you know nothing of this Gentleman, that so annoys you without any apparent cause?

Applicant.—Why, Sir, I know he is insane; I recollect him fourteen years ago, and am confident of his madness.

Magistrate.—Recollect him fourteen years ago! Pray what might be your knowledge of him? There must surely be some cause for all this, beyond a common acquaintance of so many years; during which, one would think, you would cultivate more kindly feelings.

Lady.—The truth is, Sir, I lived with this person; we parted by mutual consent; but still he will not leave me alone; and I know that the first time we come in contact, that moment will be my last; for he has not only threatened to shoot me, the first occasion that offered, but he has cocked his pistol at my servant, and threatened to shoot her.

The other lady readily confirmed the whole of this strange story, and the worthy Alderman was about to issue his warrant, when

An elderly person of very gentlemanly exterior, stepped forward, and voluntarily offered to give the whole history of the affair. He observed that, fourteen years ago, the present applicant was married to a man of some expectations, but in consequence of an unpleasant disagreement, they parted, with an understanding, that, in future, they were not to trouble each other. After this their fortunes experienced a complete reverse, the man losing all his property by one means or other, and the Lady coming into the possession of a considerable fortune. Since that period nothing had been heard of the husband until within a few months back, when he suddenly made application for his wife; but in the interval she had got united with another, and, very naturally, denied him; which coming to his knowledge, and ascertaining the cause of the slight, he provided himself with fire-arms, and would, no doubt, murder her if an opportunity presented itself.

Alderman SMITH.—And so, Madam, we have at last got into the real history of the transaction. The person you complain against, then, is your own husband, and the cause of your quarrelling is because you have, very improperly, married another man.

Applicant.—Yes, Sir; but for seven long years I never heard of him, and I understand that, after that period by law, I'm free to wed whom I choose.

Magistrate.—Indeed! I never heard of such a law; and you may think yourself fortunate if he does not indict you for bigamy. I can easily see through the merits of this case. You have property which your husband thinks he has a claim to, and which you, having another husband, will not allow. At present there is nothing before me that can induce me to grant a warrant.

A long and desultory conversation followed, the ladies still pressing for a warrant; but the Magistrate refused to grant one.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—121—

Court of King's Bench.

LIABILITY OF AUCTIONEERS.

This was a case of some importance as regards Auctioneers.

The plaintiff in this case had purchased at the Auction Mart, one of the annuities granted under the 56th of the late King by the Waterloo Bridge Company. The defendant was the auctioneer who sold the annuity in question. The printed particular only described the property as an annuity granted by the Company, and plaintiff purchased it under a supposition that it was an annuity for life. But, after having paid his purchase money, he discovered it was only an annuity for a term of years, or redeemable at the pleasure of the granters. He then brought his action against the auctioneer, who, at the trial contended that he was not liable, as he was not bound to give the purchaser information beyond what the particular conveyed and that it was the duty of the purchaser to have informed himself of what description the property was which he was about to purchase.

The point was reserved for the opinion of the COURT, who now decided, that the auctioneer was bound to state to the purchaser all the information which he possessed, whether required to do so or not, if he was aware that his printed particular was imperfect, otherwise he would be liable to make good to the purchaser any loss which he might sustain in consequence of such information being withheld.—Judgment for the plaintiff.

Presentation Convent, Galway.

(From the Connaught Journal.)

Miss Joyce, daughter of Walter Joyce, Esq. of Mervin, was received to-day (Monday week) amongst the pious and exemplary Sisterhood of the Presentation Convent. Scarcely have we ever witnessed a scene more sublimely imposing. The young and promising daughter of one of our most respectable and esteemed citizens—presenting herself at the altar of her God, in the abandonment of every earthly consideration, in the sacrifice of every thing that could bespeak permanency to social life and to social happiness—in the dedication of her exalted talents—of her young and innocent loveliness—of the world's promise and the world's hopes—must, indeed, be capable of awakening in the breasts of all a generous and a dignified association; whilst it affords a high and important colouring to the completion of her future existence, and her ultimate destiny.

At half past nine the "O gloriosa virginum" was sung from the higher choir, in the masterly accompaniment of select musical performers. The procession then began to move from the vestry, through the lower choir, to the chapel, in the following order:—

The Thuriferere.

The Acolytes.

The Master of the Ceremonies, Rev. Mr. Daly.

The Sub-Deacon, Rev. Mr. Gill.

Deacon, Rev. Mr. O'Donnell.

The High Priest, Rev. Mr. Finn.

The Celebrant, Very Rev. Warden French.

And his Train-bearer.

The Very Rev. Warden French having been conducted to his faldastorium, under a rich canopy, the High Priest and his officiating Ministers retired to their places at the Gospel side of the altar.

And now all was breathless expectation—the young postulant appeared in the attendance of the reverend mother and her assistant, robed in all the gaudy extravagance of fashionable splendour, and beaming in the glow of youthful modesty—which taught us to believe, that had she remained in the world she forsook, she would have moved the attraction of every heart—

"The leading star of every eye."

The Very Reverend Celebrant was then conducted to the platform of the altar, and the postulant and her attendants having genuflected, the ceremony of reception began with the preparatory prayers and responses. When the novice was seated, and the Celebrant re-conducted to the faldastorium, High Mass commenced with peculiar dignity, and with a strict precision in all the various ceremonies, which always render the Catholic service sublime. After the gospel, the Reverend Mr. Daly delivered an excellent sermon, addressed peculiarly to the novice, and prefaced by a text admirably pertinent to the subject he handled:—

"Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline thine ear; thou shalt leave thy people and thy father's house, for the King hath greatly desired thy beauty; and he is the Lord thy God."—Psalm 47.

After mass the novice retired, whilst the clerical choir chanted in full tone, the psalm "In exitu Israel de Egypto." At the conclusion of the Psalm, she appeared disrobed of her worldly habiliments, and vest-

ed in the simplicity of penance and retirement. In the different answers to the questions put to her by the Celebrant, she was clear and decisive, like one whose determination of embracing a life of religion and of chastity was that of long and conclusive reflection. The ceremony on the whole created a deep and general interest.

The chapel and lower choir were crowded with the first of rank and distinction in our town and its vicinity. We recognized among them the respectable families of his Grace the Archbishop of Tuam, Collector Reilly, our worthy Mayor, Colonel Carey, &c.

African Emancipation.

"All the inhabitants of New Spain, without any distinction of Europeans, Africans, or Indians, are citizens of this Monarchy, and eligible to every office, according to their merit and virtue."

This brief but comprehensive sentence, which ought to be recorded in letters of gold, constitutes the twelfth clause of the Declaration of Independence, recently issued by the patriots of Mexico, who have at length shaken off the slavish and demoralizing yoke so long imposed upon them by the mother country.

This precious clause would form an admirable text, from which a most edifying sermon might be preached before all the potentates of the earth, if those sublime personages could so far comprehend their real interest as to profit by that warning spirit which is abroad,—the spirit of emancipation and of free inquiry, to which even the Holy Alliance must shortly succumb.

How profitable a moral might our own country derive from the example of a nation just emerging from abject slavery and almost hopeless barbarism? Ireland would not now exhibit a scene of wretchedness and despair,—of deadly feuds and nightly murders, if that conciliatory spirit which dictated the twelfth article of the Mexican Constitution pervaded the councils of our statesmen and legislators;—if all British subjects, whether Protestants, Catholics, or Dissenters of every class, might be permitted to serve their Maker after their own manner, without being on that account disqualified from serving their King and country, "according to their merit and virtue."

The Mexicans, it seems, are resolved to have a King; and, if such be their will and pleasure, we cordially say Amen! The throne is to be offered, in the first instance, to King Ferdinand, on the condition, however, that he must take up his abode amongst his subjects. This is just as it should be:—non-resident clergy are bad enough, but non-resident governors are worse; and we admire the Mexicans for scouting the principle of virtual representation. How Don Fernando the Seventh may decide in this trying emergency, we shall not at present surmise. He is somewhat in the dilemma of Captain Macheath, who, when assailed by the rival pretensions of Pelly and Lucy, exclaims,

How happy could I be with either,
Were t'other dear charmer away,
But whilst you both tease me together,
To neither a word will I say.

We recollect the outlines of an anecdote of a north country prelate, who, when one of our kings offered him his choice of the vacant sees of Bath or Wells; and asked him which he would prefer, answered, "Baith, please your Majesty," meaning Bath. The King, however, understood him to say both; and replied, "Faith you are a bold man to make such a request, and you shall have both." The Scotchman was accordingly created Bishop of Bath and Wells, which have ever since been united in one See.

Don Fernando would, in all probability, be as much delighted as this Scotchman was, if he were permitted to hold both Old and New Spain; and he would, no doubt, assure his subjects that he had both a Spanish and a Mexican heart: profiting by the example of our own gracious Sovereign, who, when in Ireland, had an Irish heart, which soon afterwards became a Hanoverian heart, and which, next year, is expected to be metamorphosed into a Scotch heart.

Whether Ferdinand finally determine to reign in the east or in the west, he will not, as heretofore, have passive slaves for subjects; and the condition upon which alone he will be hereafter permitted to rule at all cannot be very palatable to a prince, whose mind, from its infancy, has been familiarised to superstition, bigotry, and the most preposterous notions of "the right divine to govern wrong."

What a shock must his old Bourbon prejudices experience at the alternative now presented to him;—either to rule as a limited monarch over the emancipated Mexicans, enjoying all the advantages of the representative system, if he accept their invitation to reside amongst them;—or, if he remain at home, condemned to hold an equally restricted sway over Spanish freemen; and actually to witness all the horrors of universal suffrage, and election by ballot.

There is one provision in the new declaration of independence, which the advocates for civil and religious liberty will peruse with regret: we allude to the clause which enacts, "that the religion of New Spain shall be the Catholic Apostolic Religion, without toleration to any other." This wretched remnant of the old order of things does not however, either surprise us, or discourage our sanguine hopes of the final result of the Mexican revolution. "Rome was not built in one day," says the old proverb, to which we may add, neither can the errors of the Church of Rome, nor of any other church, be abolished in one day. Let it be our consolation that civil liberty and religious thralldom can no more exist together than day and night;—and, as in the natural world the gloom of night does not instantly give place to the blaze of noon; so, in the moral and political world, mental darkness and the settled gloom of ages are not to be instantaneously dissipated by the intellectual dawn of reason.

We cannot doubt that the patriots of New Spain will speedily imbibe the liberal spirit recently evinced by their brethren of the mother country: where the dungeons of the Inquisition, no longer the source of terror, are exhibited as objects of curiosity, and as monuments of the triumph of liberal opinions over antiquated prejudices and exploded tyranny.

The King and Dr. Gregory.

(From the Jamaica Gazette.)

The following is an extract from a letter, addressed to a gentleman in this island, from an intimate friend of the celebrated Dr. Gregory of Edinburgh.

I know not if I wrote to you the king's conversation with Dr. Gregory, when he went up as one of the deputation from the university, to congratulate his Majesty on his accession to the throne; but, if I did, the conference will bear to be read twice. After the formality of presenting the address was over, the king, who had hardly recovered from an inflammatory disease, which had brought him to the brink of the grave took the doctor, who you know, is his first physician in Scotland, into his closet, and gave him a history of his disease.

Doctor.—Your Majesty ought to have been copiously bled.

King.—I was what the physicians called copiously bled, but felt no relief till I commanded them to bleed me to faintness.

Doctor.—Your Majesty's command was judicious; and were I suffering in the same way, I would not require an abler physician; your Majesty has studied in the Spanish school and under the greatest master.

King.—You mean Sangrado.

Doctor.—The same, the most eminent physician of that school: but there is another very eminent physician of the same school, whose regimen your Majesty will do well to follow, in order to complete your recovery, and preserve your health.

King.—I know of no other renowned Spanish physician.

Doctor.—Am I to infer that your Majesty never read Don Quixotte?

King.—No; I have read Don Quixotte often.

Doctor.—Well, your Majesty must have met with another eminent physician of the Spanish school.

King.—(After a short pause).—You mean Sancho's physician?

Doctor.—The same; next to Sangrado, the most eminent and the best.

The king was delighted with the doctor, and the doctor with the king.

The doctor is a great stickler for the regimen here recommended. Lately a gentleman of this city, (Kingston, Jamaica) who had gone to Scotland for the benefit of his health, had occasion to consult the doctor.

Doctor.—You have been some time in the West Indies?

Patient.—Yes, 24 years.

Doctor.—You look well after so long a residence in that unhealthy climate; you must have lived very abstemiously?

Patient.—I drank neither spirits nor malt liquor.

Doctor.—Aye, I thought so!

Patient.—But doctor, I did not live so very abstemiously neither, I have drunk upon an average, for upwards of a dozen years, a bottle of Madeira a-day.

Doctor.—(With a shake of the head). Then, Sir, you ought to have been dead a dozen years ago.

War in Greece.

A pamphlet has recently appeared, entitled "War in Greece," which possesses some claims to notice, as a candid examination of the question, how far the Greeks, now that the prospect of interference in their behalf seems to be at an end, are able to cope single-handed with their oppressors. It is the work of an officer on the staff, and his observations discover in that part of the discussions which regards the form in which the war of emancipation can most effectually be conducted, considerable penetration and great attention to the subject. Admitting at the outset that Greece has nothing to hope for, either from subscriptions or loans raised in foreign countries, he considers what they are best able to effect unassisted, and what cheap modes of warfare are best suited to them. He particularly recommends the use of the pike, which, when opposed to the Turkish musket, which has no bayonet, would be irresistible. As the Greeks have been able to conquer few of the fortresses in the Morea, from the want of a battering train and a system of regular tactics, he advises that some spot should be fixed upon, capable of being securely fortified against the Turks at a small cost, which would form a secure retreat in the event of a reserve, and from whence all warlike operations could be commenced. For this purpose he fixes on the isthmus of Corinth, which he shows to be capable of being made impregnable against the Turks by trifling labour and expense. The defence of this bulwark, he suggests, should never be entrusted to a force of less than 20,000: but a general insurrection in Greece, he calculates, cannot have brought into the field a smaller force than 70,000 men, of whom 60,000 will be a force immediately disposable and with them he advises that a general engagement with the Turkish army shall be hazarded as soon as possible, and thinks it by no means, improbable that one decisive victory in the open field would enable the Greeks to penetrate to Constantinople itself. The author of this pamphlet feels very strongly, what must have occurred to every one who has considered the subject, the disadvantage under which the Greeks labour from the want of some eminent individual as a leader, whom all the subordinate chiefs shall willingly obey, and towards whom they shall feel no jealousy. He is not fortunate, we think, in surmounting this difficulty, when he fixes on Ali Pacha as the person best fitted to preside over the destinies of the "Greek empire." Still less is he fortunate in naming young Napoleon for the vacant dignity. Our author, in fact, is a better soldier than a politician. His object is a laudable one, and commands for him the sympathy of every friend to humanity. There may be some difference of opinion whether his suggestions are practicable or not, for the question is, on every side, surrounded with difficulties; but there can be none in the motives that have given rise to the work, which strongly appeals to the gratitude of those for whose benefit it was intended.

The writer gives the following estimate of the advantages possessed by each of the contending parties:—

What is then the state of the Greeks?

- 1st. They are far more numerous than their enemies.
- 2d. They possess equal courage.
- 3d. They possess the greatest part of the country, and many large tracts, and some islands where the Turk, even in the day of his strength, never could penetrate; and these from so many impregnable fortresses from which to draw supplies.
- 4th. The Greeks have sailors; the Turks have none.
- 5th. The machine of Turkish Government has in all its subordinate parts been worked by Greeks, and will go on badly without them.
- 6th. The Greeks are better informed on all subjects than the Turks.
- 7th. They fight not for civil and religious freedom alone but for existence; extirpation is certain, if they are defeated; whereas the Turks have Asia Minor to retreat into, and only fight for a province belonging to their Sovereign.
- 8th. The best troops the Sultan had in his army are amongst those Greeks now in arms against him; and
- 9th. The Turkish army may have courage and arms, but nothing else, and is not entitled to the name of an army; it is a numerous banditti, so bad, that the last Emperor lost his life by an attempt to restore discipline and introduce the European system among the Janissaries.

Against these nine advantages may be placed, these on the side of the Turks:—

- 1st. They have an established Government.
- 2d. They hold most of the fortresses.
- 3d. The Sultan may have great command of money if he acts wisely.
- 4th. He has greater means of forging arms, and making gunpowder. A total ignorance of the art of war, and a complete want of discipline is a disadvantage common to both Greeks and Turks, but the former have the advantage of being aware of their ignorance, and eager to remedy the deficit. This feeling is a host of strength on their side.

He deprecates the idea of Greece being assisted by the armies of European powers, in which case she would be partitioned like Poland.

Thursday, May 9, 1892.

—123—

Sir Robert Wilson.

We request the attention of our readers to an article in another column, in refutation of certain assertions in *THE COURIER* relative to the case of Sir Robert Wilson, and to some very important queries which follow it on the subject of the extent of the Royal Prerogative. They will find it satisfactorily made out that Sir Robert Wilson, agreeably to a Letter from the Secretary at War to Colonels of Regiments, was, in consequence of having accepted the new rate of pay alluded to in that letter, "at liberty to retire, receiving the value of an unattached commission of the same rank as that from which he had been removed;" that the twelve Judges gave it as their opinion, that an officer dismissed the service can be afterwards tried, and that there are various precedents of such trials. The queries on the subject of the Royal Prerogative are of the utmost importance, and demand attentive consideration and investigation.

THE COURIER and some of the Provincial Papers, relying upon its authority, have repeatedly affirmed Sir R. W. as General Officer, had only a half-pay commission, which did not admit of sale. The following extract of a letter from the Secretary of War to Colonels of Regiments, dated August 12, 1814, will correct the errors promulgated on that subject:—

And that should they—the General Officers—now accept the new rate of pay, they will hereafter be at liberty to retire, receiving the value of an untouched commission of the same rank as that from which they have been removed.*

Again, *THE COURIER* has repeatedly asserted that an officer being dismissed the service, cannot be tried by a Court Martial. *THE COURIER* on this and most other occasion neither cares for law nor fact.

Lieut.-Col. Sackville was dismissed the service—asked for trial. The twelve Judges gave it as their opinion he might be tried, and eight months after this dismissal, he was tried accordingly.

Conet Bellasis, dismissed on imputation of cowardice, was several years afterwards tried by Court Martial, and honorably acquitted.

We will add that after thorough research, it appears to us Sir R. W. was the only officer who having purchased his commissions, was dismissed without the purchase-money being restored, and that the right of the Crown to dismiss any officer without intervention of a Court Martial, is at least very doubtful, as every one must be convinced who reads the following queries.

To the Editor of the Morning Chronicle.

Sir,

Many questions having arisen on the subject of the asserted Royal Prerogative to dismiss and cashier Officers of the Army without trial, it is important, before the Meeting of Parliament, that the subject should be brought under the notice of persons qualified to assist the deliberations of Parliament by their researches and opinions; and also that it may thus engage the attention of Members of Parliament that they may come prepared to those debates which must arise when the Mutiny Bill is brought before the House.

I therefore hope, through the medium of your extensively circulated Paper, as well as the public press generally, to obtain notice and replies to the following queries:—

The Statute of 13 Charles II. chap. 6. declares the sole supreme command and disposition of the army, by sea and land to be the undoubted right of his Majesty, &c. and that both or either houses of Parliament cannot or ought not to pretend to the same, nor can lawfully raise or levy any war offensive or defensive against his Majesty, &c.?

Was not that Statute cancelled by the Revolution, and its pretensions admitted by the Crown to be unconstitutional, when King, Lords and Commons concurred in framing a Bill for the punishment of mutiny and desertion, which passes annually, and wherein various clauses are introduced for the regulation and government of the army, as well as the punishment of offences not extending to life or limb, by cashiering &c.?

In the Mutiny Bill it is stated, in one of the sections—"Provided always, that it shall and may be lawful to and for his Majesty to form,

* General Officers of Cavalry, who held the commission of Lieutenant-Colonels, received no benefit from the new rate of pay. It was the same to a fraction with that they enjoyed, and they only gave up the Regimental Commission in deference to the wish of the Commander-in-Chief, for the good of the service. The Generals of Infantry, holding Lieutenant-Colonels' Commissions, derived a benefit from the new rate of pay.

make, and establish Articles of War, for the better government of his Majesty's forces, and the bringing offenders against the same to justice; and to erect and constitute Courts Martial, with power to try, hear and determine any crime or offences by such Articles of War, and inflict penalties by sentence or judgement of the same."

How far is the asserted prerogative of the Crown to cashier officers without the intervention of a Court Martial limited by this enactment? And if it be not, is the officer acquitted by the Court Martial still liable to be dismissed the service at the discretion of the Crown?

Is there in any preamble of any Act of Parliament or in any clause of any Articles of War framed by the King or his Predecessor, any express reservation made of the prerogative of the Crown to supersede the operation of the Military Code upon presumption of offence.

HAMPDEN.

Death of a Miser.

Died at Whitehaven lately, Mr. M. Piper, aged 91; who had amassed a fortune of above £30,000. Abstemiousness, self-denial, and inflexible perseverance in the attainment of his object marked the whole tenor of his conduct; and these are only virtues so far as their object is a laudable one: but his object was, exclusively, the hoarding up of riches, and on this his whole heart and soul were invariably fixed. At the sordid shrine of Plutus he sacrificed every generous principle, every humane and charitable feeling, and not these only, but even his own comforts. He began the world literally with nothing! In early life he was a seaman, and when on board, descended to the most servile offices for the meanest sailor for the sake of a penny. Servile as these were, his conduct in the subsequent stages of his life was not more respectable; and as his deportment in later years came more immediately under our own review, we shall state a few particulars—not for the edification of his brother misers, but as a beacon for the more liberal part of the community. Till within a short period of his long-expected demise, he boarded at the rate of 8s. a week, a sum which he always paid with heart-felt reluctance, and which he usually endeavoured to diminish by some petty set-off. If he happened to dine or drink tea abroad, he carefully calculated the proportionate expense, and deducted it from his board wages. He sometimes went a fishing, and the value of the fish which he caught and made use of was deducted in the same way; but most commonly he obliged his landlady to take the fish at the highest market price. By the various deaths which from time to time took place among the collateral branches of his family, he acquired some additions to his property; and with the exception of these, and his own parsimonious savings, time and compound interest did all the rest. His dress bespoke the penury of his disposition—one suit lasting many years. As to shirts he had but two, which were latterly worn to tatters, inasmuch that the poorest mendicant would have sold them for rags. To keep them together defied the power of the washerwoman, who, to her own defence, had them mended with a little fresh linen, for which, on presenting her account, he generously gave her—a halfpenny! His barber's fee was a penny a week, for which he got shaved at the shop; and when unable to travel that distance, he absolutely refused to give more; his friends, therefore, (or rather his expectants) gave something additional out of their own pockets! It is truly said,—"Crescit amor nummi, quantum ipsa pecunia crescit"—if he fingered a penny it was no longer a part of the circulating medium. The last Whitsuntide term falling very late, he fretted exceedingly that he was so long kept out of his rents, and was dying with apprehension lest he should die before the ensuing term. In him the "ruling passion" was "strong in death." Being very faint a few days before his dissolution, it was proposed to administer a little brandy, on which he faltered out, "What will it cost?" and, on being told, positively refused the cordial drop. Yet so long as he had any strength remaining, he partook freely of any refreshment which was offered as a gift, saying "the neighbours are very good to me." And thus he acted throughout life, being fond of good eating and drinking, when he could gratify his appetite at his neighbour's expense. It has been said that he disregarded popularity (and indeed he could not expect much of it) but it is certain that he seemed highly delighted with the Bishop of Chester's encomiums on his charitable bequests, and always took much credit to himself for his posthumous beneficence; but was never known to give one penny to the poor. A few days before his death, when a relative called at his lodgings to inquire after his health, he thus saluted him; "Have you brought the interest?" "It is not due yet," replied the visitor—"No!" added the sick man, "and I am not dead yet." Agreeably to a wish he had expressed whilst living, his remains were deposited within the National School in Kendal, which will now, in consequence of his decease, come into the disencumbered possession of £2,000. To similar institutions in Whitehaven and Lancaster, the sum was given on the same condition, of paying to him, during life, the full interest of that sum.

The CUMBERLAND PACQUET thus records the death of Mr. Piper:—"At his lodgings, in Scottish Street, in this town, on Thursday evening last, Mr. Matthew Piper, one of the Society of Friends, aged 91. By a system of parsimonious economy, Mr. Piper had amassed a considerable fortune, but indulged in the enjoyment of a very trifling portion of it, and in his late illness, which was a protracted one, scarcely allowed himself the necessities of life; these however were supplied by his connexions, but which he would have denominated extravagant luxury. This singular character, whilst he abridged his own personal enjoyments, was willing to promote the interest of others, but in such a way only that he might retain the possession of his riches, for his charities, which are extensive, were not to be called into action during his life. Mr. Piper has endowed three schools, one in Whitehaven, another at Kendal, and another at Lancaster, each with £2,000 five per cents. navy annuities; he has also bestowed £1,000 five per cents. to support a Soup Kitchen, in this town. Though he denied to himself the pleasure of being an eye witness of the benefits he thus conferred on society, it would be injustice to his memory to say that he disposed of a part of his wealth for posthumous praise, as he seemed to disregard popularity. Mr. Piper was seldom, if ever, induced to afford the slightest relief to indigence; and it is said that his annual expenses never amounted to £40."

Public Executions.

To the Editor of the Morning Chronicle.

SIR,

I should have been little claim to the feelings of philanthropy, if I could read unmoved the melancholy account of those public executions which have so lately occurred in this metropolis. It is a subject, indeed, which has already made a deep impression on the public mind, and demands the most serious attention of every individual who is a friend to the well-being and happiness of society.

The most enlightened men, not only in this country, but in almost every part of Europe, have long considered our Penal Code far too sanguinary; and the testimony of those who fill high judicial situations is not wanting to prove the necessity of its revision. The greater part of the Criminal Laws of this Country have been made at different periods, when society was not so enlightened as in the eighteenth century; but as all laws are intended for the public good, and should have their foundation upon the principles of humanity and justice, the moment they are found insufficient for the purposes intended, and have a contrary effect, surely their revision or repeal should be immediately adopted. The numerous capital punishments in this country, clearly prove the inefficacy of such means to restrain the progress of crime; for while we shudder at those daring outrages which bring many an unhappy wretch to an ignominious end, it is in no small degree to be traced to the severity of those laws, which, although they sweep into eternity so many offenders, guilty of crimes of different shades of turpitude; yet the fatal example has little effect in reforming the morals, or correcting the evils intended. Blackstone, who understood human nature so well, and is justly referred to as one of the luminaries of the law, appeared very conscious of their evil tendency, and styles them "outrageous penalties," as calculated to pollute the very sources of public justice. He observes, "It is a melancholy truth, that among the variety of actions which men are daily liable to commit, no less than a hundred and sixty have been declared by Act of Parliament to be felonies without benefit of clergy; or, in other words, to be worthy of instant death. So dreadful a list, instead of diminishing, increases the number of offenders. The injured through compassion, will often forbear to prosecute; Juries through compassion will sometimes forget their oaths, and either acquit the guilty or mitigate the nature of the offence; and Judges through compassion will respite one half of the convicts and recommend them to the Royal mercy. Among so many chances of escaping, the needy and hardened offender overlooks the multitude that suffer; he boldly engages in some desperate attempt to relieve his wants or supply his vices; and if unexpectedly the hand of justice overtakes him, he deems himself peculiarly unfortunately in falling at last a sacrifice to those laws which long impunity has taught him to contemn."

This is the view that Sir William Blackstone, that learned and excellent Judge, has taken of our Criminal Code; and if an instance is wanting to prove the truth of the last line or two of this extract, we need only refer to the melancholy scene at the Old Bailey about ten days since, when the wretched Cadman, standing on the fatal scaffold, and shivering on the brink of eternity, gave the most agonising and unequivocal testimony of the truth of this remark. It is indeed in the chances of escape, that the culprit imbibes the opiate that lulls his apprehensions, and arms him with confidence to engage in the most daring enterprise; but if the Criminal Code was revised, and it were practicable to fix a scale of punishments to the different gradations of crime, and that sentence of death was only heard when it would certainly be carried into effect, the criminal, who now too often hears it with har-

dened indifference, would then be brought to a proper sense of his awful situation, and such examples might then have a salutary effect.

The frequency of capital punishments, has likewise, I conceive, a demoralising influence, and is calculated to paralyse the best feelings of human nature. There are not a few, I am informed (abandoned characters they must be), that take a savage delight in habitually witnessing public executions in this metropolis. The heart as well as the eye, in time may become reconciled to the most appalling sights; and this is to be seen in the conduct of pick-pockets, who on those occasions join the throng, and with frozen insensibility, carry on their nefarious practices, and brave the horrors of the scene. Desirable, however, as it is, that the criminal code should be revised, it is not this that will stem the torrent of vice, and effectually check the progress of crime; but the benefits of a well directed education will go far to effect this object. This is strikingly illustrated, by referring to the relative condition of Scotland and Ireland. In the former, a tone of morality and an honourable emulation is imbibed early in life, which renders them an industrious and enterprising people; while, in the latter, from the want of those advantages, they drag on a miserable existence, the seeds of vice vegetating in ignorance, and, like a canker, destroying some of the fairest flowers that might otherwise be produced by intellectual culture. It is also owing to the influence of education in Scotland, that pauperism is so little known, and that crimes of an atrocious dye are of rare occurrence. Capital punishments are consequently seldom witnessed, and thus the feelings of our northern neighbours are spared those painful sensations which so frequently distress the friends of humanity in this country.

I am, Sir, Your obedient humble servant,

Camberwell, Albany-road, Dec. 1, 1821.

W. T. W.

Lines

ON READING A BASE LIBEL, SAID TO BE COPIED FROM AN IRISH NEWSPAPER, ON THE MEMORY OF HENRY GRATTAN.

Can it be that from IRELAND the calumny came?

Was it there that a heart and a hand could be found
To rake up the ashes and rife the fame

Of the mightiest man that e'er hallowed her ground?

Does she boast her exemption from ven om no more?

Most wretched, but long the most pure spot of earth!

Have the tears of her sons washed the charm from her shore,

And corruption hatched vile things like this into birth?

No, no—let us hope that some less-favoured clime

Engendered the crawler; which crept from the gloom

To shake off its covering of slander and slime

In the brightness that shines round the Patriot's tomb.

Or is it that Fame—like the mouldering clay

In the charnel—is doomed for a while to remain,

Of self, begot reptiles the sport, till the day

When the loud trump of Heaven shall arouse it again?

It would seem so—for all whom the world has adored,

Let their glory be built on what structure it might,

On virtue or valour—by pen or by sword—

Have had spots on their disk, be it ever so bright.

Let us look through the vistas of History's page,

And we see not one name of the good or the great,

Ungnawed by the loathsome worms of the age—

And can GRATTAN find freedom from CICERO's fate?

But no fear for his fame from such reptiles as those,

When WELLINGTON, CASTLEREAGH, CANNING were proud

To wash out the shame that they once were his foes,

In tears which bedewed every fold of his shroud.

Little fear for his fame, when a hand weak as mine,

That was palsied by grief when the Patriot died,

And dared not his greatness disgrace by one line,

Has nerve to crush this thing by which he's decried.

Still let not the unavowed wretch shrink from day

In some by-place of scorn—for when ruffians infest

Each illustrious traveller on honour's broad way,

We must gibbet some victims to frighten the rest;—

Let him skulk not unknown, but immortal uprise,

Like the Grecian incendiary, blasted by Fame;

And when temples to GRATTAN are piercing the skies,

On their basements be sculptured the Libeller's shame!

Montmarie, 1821.

C.

ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—125—

Questions on Marriage.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

Turning over a volume of your highly useful and entertaining Journal, I was struck with the following important "Queries," and am only surprised that they have not been noticed by some of your intelligent Correspondents.

1st. Whether love without money or money without love be more conducive to matrimonial happiness?

2ndly. Which is more conducive to human enjoyment, early or late marriages?

"Love without money and money without love" will be found to be both inconsistent with true matrimonial happiness; but the latter I think in a greater degree than the former. Yet in discussing questions of this nature, it is incumbent upon us, if we would arrive at any thing like a just conclusion, to take into due consideration the characters, dispositions, and situations of those by or to whom we would form our judgements or proffer our admonitions. To men for instance of cool calculating dispositions, whose finer feelings have been lost in the selfish pursuits of wealth; to effeminate fops and giddy votaries of fashion, to fat-headed simpletons whose God is their belly, and to the *generality* of those who have rioted in the lap of luxury and refinement, "love without money" would afford but a poor prospect of matrimonial felicity. There are some, however, of both sexes and of all ages, who, amid all the gorgeous splendor of magnificence and wealth, can sigh for the rural cot, in which to exchange the glare of pomp and grandeur for the smiles of disinterested love and the sober quiet of repose and peace. Nor are these generous impulses always to be considered as the glowing but fallacious dreams of a bewildered and deluded enthusiast; the result of a desensated desire of change and variety, or, as instances of the thoughtless impetuosity of passion. There are, no doubt, those in every situation of life whose idols are the affections of the heart, that can look with the most unfeigned and unqualified contempt and disgust on the cold unmeaning forms and ceremonies of the fashionable world, and all the glittering pageants and bloated luxuries of wealth and power. To such we can have no hesitation in deciding that "love without money" is far preferable to "money without love." I do not here suppose absolute poverty, yet even in the absence of the commonest necessities of life there is such an exhilarating spell in the smile of love, such a soothing charm in its sympathetic tear, as to make us almost enamoured of those sorrows which call forth its most hallowed powers. In the dark flagging hour of sickness, satiety, and affliction (and who on earth may hope a uniformity of happiness?) where shall we seek for sympathy and consolation if unblessed by the soothing attentions and affectionate anxieties of that dear angel, woman? "Shall I not pour out my griefs into the generous bosom of a faithful friend?" Yes, when you can find one! But, simple and deluded inquirer! look round upon the world, and tell me if thou seest one poor child of poverty and misfortune who has preserved that fleeting treasure. But on the other hand, mark the female characters of the contracted circle of your own intimate acquaintance, and how few will be found whose affection and kindness toward the lords of their hearts and persons have abated in the hour of adversity and affliction? Surely then that man cannot be considered an object of envy or admiration who is induced to marry from no other consideration than the acquisition of wealth; and that father who in the coldness of his heart, compels his unhappy daughter to espouse the man whom she detests from the same mean consideration is guilty of an act which is abhorrent to every feeling and principle of virtue and religion, and every dictate of honor and humanity. Strange indeed that the very man who will bluster about the cruelties of slavery, and who would shudder at the thought of receiving the price of human flesh, will sell his own daughter to legal prostitution.

2ndly. Which is more conducive to human enjoyment early or late marriages?

I should be inclined to consider the former, for the following reasons. Youth is the season when we are most susceptible of love and the tender affections, therefore early marriages may be said to be sanctioned by the dictates of nature, and a first love is not only the most ardent and disinterested, but is generally of the longest duration, for even in old age we cannot regard with indifference, much less dislike, one who was the partner of our early joy or our early misfortunes. Those too who marry early in life have the pleasing prospect of seeing their children settled in the world before they leave it, and of enjoying the inestimable advantages of their affectionate aid and soothing attentions in the decline of life. People of mature age and reflection are not readily persuaded to give up for the accommodation of others, their long cherished habits and opinions; and are consequently exposed to the miseries of constant controversy. Young people again are easily pleased ("their's is the age of admiration") and as they easily blend their feelings with each other, so they more speedily acquire a community of taste, habits, and opinions. Marriage has often the effect of repressing the wild sallies and indiscretions of youth, and leading them from the paths of licentiousness and extravagance to the sweet home of domestic love and affection. I could mention a great many other reasons which appear to me decisive of the many advantages of early marriages, but I fear I have already intruded too much on the time and patience of you and your readers.

I am, your's, &c.

Banlah, May 1822.

R—.

Place of Worship.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I have perused with attention, the letter of "A LOVER OF CHRISTIAN CHARITY" in your Paper of the 22d instant, together with the observation made in the concluding paragraph of the Appeal to the Christian Public, in behalf of the erection of a place of worship at Howrah; and as the head of the "four families who have withheld their mite," (printed, partly for the sake of emphasis, in Italics) I deem it, in justice to myself and to those comprehended in the general reflection, to point out in a concise manner, the reason which caused me to withhold this mite.

At the time when the first proposal of this undertaking was brought for my inspection, the impression on my mind (on a due consideration of the advantage, and *indubitably* great convenience, that such a place would afford to those residing on this side of the water) was, that a Minister of the Gospel should be duly elected, by the Subscribers, or the majority of them, to administer the rites of the Protestant Church in this quarter.

To this plan, I could not have any objection; and for this purpose I would most heartily have concurred with the wishes of the resident inhabitants at Howrah, and Seiken, and have contributed my mite with the most heartfelt satisfaction; in which, I think, I can venture to assert, the 3 other families alluded to, with myself, would also have most gladly joined. But having been brought up, from my earliest infancy, to hear the word of God, preached according to the regularly established forms of the Protestant Church; and it having come to my notice, that the place of worship intended to be erected, is to be for Ana-Baptist and dissenting Preachers of all Sects, I never could bring my mind to encourage such an indiscriminate appointment of any person; or subscribe to the doctrine that the care of our souls should devolve on any Individual who had not been educated or received the qualification necessary for so serious a charge.

As a further motive for not subscribing to the erection of a Chapel, I beg to observe that a petition has already been presented to Government for a Protestant Church to be built for the accommodation of the increasing Christian population on this side of the water.

Howrah, April 25, 1822. ONE OF THE FOUR FAMILIES.

A Lover of Justice.

"It is a busy talking world that with licentious breath blows like the wind as freely on the palace as the cottage."—Rowe.

"Now by two headed Janus, Nature hath form'd strange fellows in her time."—SHAKESPEARE.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I am commanded by the renowned body of Gothamites, so long and so deservedly distinguished for their unerring wisdom, discretion, and practical foresight, to signify, make known, and publish, through the medium of the CALCUTTA JOURNAL, that on the morning of the 6th Instant, exactly when the moon was at full, our sapient fraternity assembled and resolved that "A LOVER OF JUSTICE," an able correspondent of yours, should be forthwith admitted, and entered on the books of the Society, as a member, from the 25th ultimo.

The fascinating olio of irrefragable law-doctrine, elevated views of philosophy, and quaint yet original conceptions of philanthropy, disseminated in such a candid, liberal, open-hearted manner by the "LOVER OF JUSTICE" have afforded exquisite pleasure and superlative satisfaction to the Gothamites; who, as perhaps, Mr. Editor, you already know, are a celebrated and far famed company, extolled and almost beatified by Churchill, Addison, Foote, Stevens, and others; besides being hitherto rhymed and rendered famous in song by many a literary Mæcenas of the present day.

With regard to descent and other personal advantages, the Gothamites, Sir, are a peculiar people; they possess a list of rights and privileges, as long at least, if not more scrupulously exact, than any Welsh pedigree extant. Old customs they absolutely venerate. Feudal blessings, including all star-chamber process, they are staunch admirers of; and avoid, as they would a pestilence, all new-fangled novelties, nick-named reforms, as well as those inexplicable innovations which modern philosophers, who furnish such a multitude of idle things, send into the world, pell-mell, under the plausible designation of discoveries.

The "LOVER OF JUSTICE" shudders, as well he may, at "an Englishman of high rank being subjected to the ignominy of a trial for an atrocious crime;" and, grant me patience! rendered liable to conviction "on the mere swearing of a number of Natives, when," as he very justly observes, "the value of their testimony is known to be nothing, or indeed less than nothing!" This, we agree with him, is "excessively cruel," and the Gothamites, Sir, one and all "hope that wise measures will be adopted to prevent" as far as human means can prevent, "any such evil ever occurring again." It probably may be said that Native witnesses, have on some occasions, been called upon to swear for "Englishmen of rank;" but admitting this, is there to be no "no difference in men's worths," or are "base mechanics and broken wing'd shopkeepers," as Ben Jonson calls them, to be placed on a level with him, "who writes himself *Armigero*;" and who by virtue of his lineage, may "have a dozen white houses in his coat?" No Mr. Editor, this will never do "without distinction," as Sir John Trotley says; "the world would be at an end," and then indeed there would "be fine work and precious doings" amongst us.

But we may take higher ground, Sir, and in conjunction with a writer of 1649, argue that every soul is subject to the higher power; and this subjection the writer very pithily explains as follows: "Whenever we bid you go, you must run, for you owe us your lives and limbs and all that you have: so that whensoever we demand them you ought to surrender, and that freely." This then is the "desideratum" which "cum multis aliis" should be always kept in remembrance; or the "headstrong moody murmuring race," as old Dryden very properly designates the swinish multitude, will think a man "gets A. S. S. tacked to his name for nothing."

At our assembly of the 6th, above adverted to, after the formal introduction of our newly initiated friend the "LOVER OF JUSTICE," and when his letter had been read with good emphasis and good discretion, DAVID ORRERY Esq. who "in any bill, war

rant, quittance, or obligation, writes *Armigero*," stood up "and with a port so proud as if he had subdued the spacious world," said audibly

"Shall men of honor meet no more respect;
Shall their diversions thus by laws be check'd,
Shall they be accountable to sancy Juries,
For this or t'other pleasure?—Hell and Furies!"

which was generally applauded; while another member, SIMON SLIDE Esq. thundered out from Dryden "ye mongrel work of heaven in human shapes," and the meeting broke up.

I have the honor to be Sir, yours very faithfully,

Calcutta, May 8, 1822.

DARBY LOGAN.

Vice Grand and Secretary.

Mr. Hume.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

In your Paper of yesterday, I observe a Correspondence between the Inhabitants of Hertfordshire and Joseph Hume, by which it appears that they intend to make him a present of a Hogshead of the best Cider the country can produce, and a Silver Tankard to drink it with, as a proof (they are pleased to say) of the esteem in which they hold an honest and independent Member of Parliament, and a public testimonial of gratitude for the beneficial effects of his public services. Mr. Hume in reply suggests, that the Committee should appoint a day whereon he will meet them, as he would prefer drinking the health of his Hertfordshire Friends out of the first Tankard of the Cider.

Now, what is this Hume? A great Arithmetician forsooth! I was talking about this to your Irish Friend BARNEY the other night; and he said, "Don't be cast down, my honey; honors are in preparation for his Majesty's Ministers that will far outdo these compliments to Joe Hume. I will let you into a bit of a secret. A friend of mine has sent me word from home, that the Inhabitants of Belfast, to outdo these of Hertfordshire, intend to call a public meeting to vote to Robert Stewart, *alias* Lord Castlereagh, *alias* the Marquis of Londonderry, a gallows on a new construction, in the form of a triangle, made of the best sprig of shillelah Ireland can produce, and also a rope made of the very best hemp in the country, together with a cat-o'-nine tails, and other appropriate ornaments; as a proof of the high honor and exaltation they think he has merited by his long public services.

In case his Lordship should, in imitation of Joseph Hume, prefer paying a visit to his Belfast Friends, and using this present they have so kindly prepared for him *first himself*, they will assemble a public meeting with alacrity, and give three hearty cheers to their distinguished malefactor.

I send you this piece of private intelligence, Mr. Editor, that you may anticipate the Europe Newspapers, and that your 2000 readers (I wish to speak within compass) may enjoy a hearty laugh when they think how foolish Joseph Hume "and his Hogshead of Cider and his Mug with an appropriate inscription thereon!!" will look when he turns up his eyes to the loftier and better merited honors of the Great Statesman!

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

A TORYLING.

Deaths.

At Bombay, on the 1st ultimo, the infant Daughter of Captain BROWN, of the 24th Regiment.

At Madras, on the 22d ultimo, JAMES STAVLEY, Esq. Barrister at Law of the Supreme Court of Madras, Member of Gray's Inn, and formerly of the Northern Circuit, aged 37 years.

At Egmore, on the 22d ultimo, CATHERINE, the Daughter of Mr. D. SICALIA, aged 1 year and 9 months.

HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA THIS DAY.		H.	M.
Morning.....	5	28
Evening.....	5	59

Thursday, May 9. 1822.

—127—

Certificates of Unsoundness.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I know a case similar to that stated by HIPPODAMOS, where a Stable-Keeper's Certificate of the unsoundness of a Horse was disputed by Mr. HODGSON, the Veterinary Surgeon at Ballygunge, which, I believe, is not an unfrequent occurrence.

May 7, 1822.

N—C—S—

Madras Literary Society.

Madras, April 25, 1822.—The Madras Literary Society held their Annual General Meeting at the College Hall on Saturday the 13th instant, for the purpose of receiving a report of their state of their funds, and electing a Committee of Management for the ensuing year.

The following Members were present—The Honorable Sir Charles Edward Grey in the chair, G. Arbuthnot, R. Clarke, H. Dickinson, H. S. Græme, J. Goldie, J. Gwatkin, and D. Hill, Esquires; Captain MacLeane, Lieut. Mountford, W. Oliver, Esq. Dr. Rottler, and J. Staveley, Esq.

The Report having exhibited a satisfactory statement of the appropriation of the funds, the Meeting proceeded to elect the following Gentlemen to compose the Committee of Management for the ensuing year. Mr. Clarke, Mr. Oliver, Mr. Hill, Major Macdonald, Mr. Gwatkin, the Venerable the Archdeacon, Mr. Arbuthnot, Mr. Staveley, and Dr. Hyne.

The following Members were stated to have been admitted since the last meeting:—Captain C. Rundall, Mr. J. Cox, Mr. W. Bannister, Mr. W. Newlyn, Dr. Aitkin, Mr. H. Dickinson, Mr. S. Nicholls, Dr. Shutter, and Mr. G. Mickle.

It was voted unanimously that Mr. Græme, should be requested to become one of the Vice Presidents of the Society.

Several contributions which had been received in the short interval since the last General Meeting were laid on the table.

A Donation of Books by the Honorable the President, to whom the thanks of the Society were voted on the occasion.

The Bones of a Hippopotamus' head presented in the name of Lieutenant Oliphant of the Madras Engineers. This Gentleman accompanied his donation (which he had brought from the Cape) with a description of the Animal from his own observation.

An interesting paper containing Geological observations on a part of the country near Rajahmundry, presented in the name of Captain Cullen of the Madras Artillery. A small collection of Geological specimens, and a section of the Country on the high Northern road between the Godavery and Kistna rivers, constructed from Barometrical measurement, accompanied this paper.

A Musical Instrument much admired by the Malays called by them the Gambang, and a bottle of the Milk or Juice of the Elastic Gum—vine *Urceola Elastica* or *Cavut-chou vine* of Prince of Wales's Island, presented in the name of Major Coombs. This Plant which is of the class Pentendria, and order Monogynia has been described by Dr. Roxburgh, in the 5th Volume of the Asiatic Researches.

An Idol, worn by the Natives of New Zealand, presented in the name of Lieutenant-Colonel Prendergast.

Some Copper Plates with an inscription, dug up in a Garden of a Zemindar in the Guntoor district, by Mr. Clulow.

A Collection of Silver Coins by Lieutenant Sinclair.

The Jaw and Back Bone of a Shark by Mr. Uhthoff.

The thanks of the Meeting were unanimously voted to the Secretary, Lieutenant Mountford, for his unremitting attention to the interests of the Society.

Reverend J. Chamberlain.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

You noticed a few days ago the death of this indefatigable Servant of God. He came to India in the year 1803, as a Missionary, and from that period till within a few months of his quitting Bengal, on a voyage to England for the recovery of his health, he laboured with truly Apostolic zeal among the Heathen, and none who have ever laboured in the Eastern world have had the honour of proclaiming the tidings of salvation to such vast multitudes as have heard them from his lips; as, from Calcutta to Delhi, there is no principal place of resort among the Natives where his voice has not been heard; but he was not permitted again to behold the place of his nativity, having died on the passage. A Funeral Sermon on the occasion will be preached by the Rev. W. YATES, on Sunday Evening next, at the New Chapel, circular road.

A CHRISTIAN.

Rangoon.

Rangoon.—The non-arrival of our expected Shipping from Rangoon, leads to serious and unpleasant conjectures; as a small Schooner was expected to have followed the TETAGUR, as well as the Brig JOHN SHORE. The Ship JOHN MUNRO was also bound for Calcutta, and certainly sufficient time has elapsed to have brought us a report of the JULIANA's arrival.

Our last accounts from that quarter, represented that a considerable ferment prevailed amongst the Burmahs, occasioned by an expected visit from the Siamese: who, after having abandoned their former threats, had proceeded northward, and possessed themselves of Junkceylon. Their force consisted of a large fleet of armed vessels, and about 6,000 men, which, as we are informed, were joined by a party of Chinese. This circumstance has induced His Burmah Majesty to remove all the Chinamen residing at Rangoon, and bring them to Ava; between which places, dispatches have been passing in rapid succession almost hourly.

The Governor of Martaban had been superceded by a higher military character, and the VICEROY of Rangoon had received His Majesty's instructions to hold himself in immediate readiness for proceeding to the Martaban Frontier, and to take the field if necessary, with all the Forces that could possibly be mustered.

The amount of disciplined troops at Rangoon, are reported to consist of 5000 Musquetry and about 160 pieces of Cannon, the greater portion of which may be considered as nearly non-effective.

The Siamese Ambassadors at the Court of Ava, have been under surveillance for some time past, from an apprehension of their being merely spies. If this should be construed into an indignity offered generally to the Siamese, although they are not over suspicious in the due observance of such punctilious matters, it might still be an additional stimulus in-urging them to vindictive retaliation, which is completely within their power, by the superior organization and magnitude of their resources being far beyond any Force which the Burmahs could for sometime collect. If the Siamese were at this moment, to carry their inclinations into full effect, the Burmahs have no means of preventing them from effecting a *coup de main*, carrying Rangoon at once, and making an ultimate conquest of the whole country! The consequence of this may be easily inferred, as far as it respects the English trade and property in that quarter, who, by their not having any official Representative, throughout the Burmah Empire, their property could scarcely be expected to meet with protection or respect, in the event of a conquest being effected. Indeed they would necessarily be compelled to assist in the defence of the port, and it might be also deemed necessary, as on a former occasion at Martaban, to sink their ships, so as to block up the navigation of the Syrian River. The PORTSEA, EXMOUTH, EDMONSTONE, and PASCOA, were also there—but of course, none of these ships, from not being armed, are sufficiently able to protect themselves, much less to break up any thing in the form of a blockade.—Hurkaru.

Sharks in the River.*To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

SIR,

It will be within the recollection of many of your readers that during the months of April and May last year, several persons were attacked by Sharks and Alligators while bathing in the River at the Ghauts abreast of the Town, some of whom fell sacrifices to the injuries they received from these voracious monsters. I understand that similar mischiefs may be expected to recur from the same causes during the present month; a China man, while bathing yesterday evening at the Police Ghaut, in little more than knee-depth of water, and in the midst of a large number of boats and people, having been seized by a large Shark, which grasped both the arm and part of the side of the sufferer in its devouring jaws. The noise instantly made by the people present caused the Shark to abandon its prey; the man was immediately taken to the Native Hospital sadly lacerated, and, I fear, without much hope of his recovery.

AN OBSERVER.

Sporting Question.*To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

SIR,

Since the Letter inserted in your JOURNAL of March 22d, (relative to the timing of a Race between Major Gilbert's brown country Filly *Beggar Girl*, and Mr. Oakeley's chestnut country Filly *Irene*) signed by "A MEMBER OF THE JOCKEY CLUB," we beg to send you the enclosed for the information required, which we shall thank you also to insert.

We are, Sir, your's obediently,

May 7, 1822.

GRIGG, PENGELLY AND CO.

MESSRS. GRIGG, PENGELLY AND CO.

Tank-Square.

SIRS,

I sent a printed Hand-bill of the Races of Wednesday the 13th of February 1822, with my timing, on that occasion, marked on the margin of it, opposite to each Race, in pencil, as put down at the Stand, to Mr. C. R. Barwell, one of the Stewards, some time previous to the date of the notice, which appeared in the CALCUTTA JOURNAL of the 22d of March, of a "Sporting Inaccuracy," in regard to the timing of a certain Race.

Circumstances prevented my applying to Mr. Barwell for the Hand-bill alluded to, immediately I saw the notice in the JOURNAL, and unfortunately he now informs me, he has mislaid it somewhere. I perfectly remember, however, the timing of the Race between *Beggar Girl*, 6st. and *Irene*, 8st. half a mile, to have been by my Watch 56 seconds, (rather under than over) and that it was that very circumstance, which subsequently induced me to offer her owner 1200 Rupees for her, which was refused by him. You are at liberty to make what use you please of this information.

Your obedient Servant,

Calcutta, May 1, 1822.

J. HUNTER, Capt. 29th Regt. N. I.

P. S. I enclose Mr. Barwell's Note, which mentions his not having been able to find the Notes he received from me on this subject.*

MESSRS. GRIGG, PENGELLY AND CO.

Tank-Square.

SIRS,

In pursuance to the notice of a "Sporting Inaccuracy," published in the CALCUTTA JOURNAL of Friday the 22d of March 1822, signed "A MEMBER OF THE JOCKEY CLUB," concerning the misprint in the Calcutta Racing Calendar, for 1821-2, in regard to the timing of the Race between *Beggar Girl*, 6st. and *Irene*, 8st. half a mile, on Wednesday the 13th of February, (not Wednesday the 13th of January, as incorrectly printed in the notice above alluded to) I have to request your information. Have you received any Notes of timing, from any Gentleman on that occasion? If so, from whom? and what say they? Does the time inserted in the Calendar appear to be correct, at 58 seconds? or was it done in less time? I am of opinion, from having myself timed particularly on that occasion, that the true time should be 56 seconds. Compare Notes, Sir, if you please, and let the Public know the result.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

Calcutta, May 5, 1822.

A JOCKEY CLUB MEMBER.

* G. P. and Co. beg to state, they have seen the above Note from C. R. Barwell, Esq.

Shipping Arrivals.

MADRAS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
April 23	Sarah	British	Kayser	Colombo	April 5

Shipping Departures.

CALCUTTA.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
May 6	Mary Ann	British	J. Webster	Ile of France
6	Ann	British	R. H. Gibson	Penang
6	Cantabria	Spanish	J. F. Alonso	Manilla

MADRAS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
April 24	Mercure	French	Chevalaire	Batavia

Stations of Vessels in the River.

MAY 7, 1822.

At Diamond Harbour.—St. THIAGO MAIOR (P.)—VALETTA,—JOHN BARRY, outward-bound, remains.

Kedgerce.—HARRIET, LADY FARQUHAR (brig), and MOCHA CHONA (Burma brig) outward-bound, remain,—CHARLES MILLS, and TITAGHUR (brig) passed down.

New Anchorage.—H. C. S. EARL OF BALCANRAH.

Passengers.

Passengers per GOOD SUCCESS, from Calcutta to Bombay.—Reverend M. Young, Doctor Jameson, Major P. Byres.

Passengers per CURLEW, from Bombay for Calcutta.—Major General Reynell, Captain Mead, and William Hawkins, Esq.

Passengers per VIGILANT, from Bombay for Ratanagerry.—S. Babington, Esq. Mrs. and Master Babington.

Nautical Notices.

Arrivals in Table Bay.—On the 26th of February, REGULUS, French Ship, J. Serchais, Master, from Isle of Bourbon the 5th of February, bound to Nantz, cargo Sundries. Passengers.—The Baron Richmond, and Family, Messrs. Lechenaus, Gravier, and Rontier, and 4 Servants.

On the 27th of February, SENHORA BALUA-TE, Portuguese Brig, J. S. Penheiro, Master, from Quilimana the 10th of January, bound to Rio-Janeiro, cargo 309 Slaves.—Under Quarantine.

Sailed out of Table Bay.—On the 23d of February, His Most Christian Majesty's Ship, LA MOSELLE, Captain Du Plessis Pareau, bound to Monte Video. LONACH, English Ship, John Pearson, Master, bound to London, cargo Sundries, from Calcutta and that place.

On the 24th of February, OCEAN, South Sea Whaler, T. Younger, Master, bound to London, cargo Spermaceti Oil.

Sailed out of Simon's Bay.—On the 28th of February, BORODINO, Transport Ship, R. Park, Master, Lieutenant Stewart, Agent, bound to Table Bay, to take in Troops, for England.

Marriages.

On the 7th instant, by the Reverend J. PARSON, Mr. WILLIAM WELLS, of the Honorable Company's Marine, to Mrs. ISABELLA REYNOLDS.

At Vizagapatam, on the 16th ultimo, by HUGH MONTGOMERIE, Esq., Head Assistant Magistrate, Mr. WILLIAM ARTHUR LE-LIS, second Son of the Master Attendant at Calingapatam, to Miss LUCY COWAN, Sister-in-law to Lieutenant CECIL.

Births.

At the Presidency, on the 8th instant, the Lady of JAMES ATKINSON, Esq. of a Son.

At Madras, on the 17th ultimo, the Lady of GEORGE ARBUTHNOT, Esq. of a Son.

On the 1st ultimo, at Dapoorce, at the house of Major FORD, the Lady of Captain BROWN, of the 24th Regiment, of a Daughter.

Index.

The European Department of the Index only is issued to-day. The Asiatic Department will follow during the week.

